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Poetry.

THE LIPS THAT TOUCH LIQUOR SHALL NEVER TOUCH MINE.

BY IDA W. BALLENGER.

You may smile at my subject, and think it quite strange,
But, if you'll be patient, I'll try to arrange
In prose or in rhyme, though not over nice,
A few simple thoughts as a piece of advice;
And if they're too pointed to suit all your views,
I hope you will listen, and try to excuse,
For as you all know, "I'm a foe to the wine,
And the lip that touch liquor shall never touch mine."

The tales of deep sorrow how often we've read,
Of a heart-broken woman awaiting the tread
Of him who promised to love and protect
When, a few months before, as his bride she was decked
But who now has damped all the joys of her life
By that terrible blight—a drunkard's wife—
Which she would not have been had she said
this in time:
"The lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine."

There are hundreds of mothers all over the land
Who are pleading to-day, with peaceless hand,
For help to support the children they love,
Whose fathers have left them as beggars to rove.
Although it seems hard to censure or blame,
Yet 'twould have been better, to all 'tis quite plain,
Had they said this when young: "I'm a foe to the wine,
And the lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine."

There's many a one who has worked long and well
This terrible fiend of Intemperance to quell;
But what can they do when young ladies will wed
Drunkards, in spite of all that is said?
Then if you would aid in this calling divine,
Say, "The lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine."

Oh, take this advice, young lady, from me,
No matter how wealthy a young man may be;
No matter how handsome, how gay, or how nice;
No matter how grand be his station in life;
No matter how seldom a glass he may take—
If he takes it at all, for your happiness' sake,
Say, when you are wooed: "I'm a foe to the wine,
And the lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine."

You may say it's all nonsense; my heart is a stone;
And, if I act thus, I will spend life alone.
I care not for that; my mind is made up
To do what I can 'gainst the poisonous cup;
And, if I should wed a drunkard or more,
Of the two great evils I'll choose the less one.
Yes, I'll live an old maid to the end of my days
Ere the "lips that touch liquor shall ever touch mine!"

For the Blade.

QUESTIONS ON READING LOWELL'S "IN THE TWILIGHT."

My muse of song, thy weak wings try;
Thou hast soared but to fall as I pass me by.
No spirit is mine for thy presence fair,
My thoughts earth born of life's dull care.
I would drink of rhipocrene's pure wine;
I am longing to yield my soul to thine.
My fancy fain is on the moonbeam's light
To the land thou mightst reach in thy airy flight,
Couldst thou but soar with the wild desire
That beats thro' my veins at the poet's fire,
Or have given to the world I have read again,
Till their pure delight grew into pain.
Have we lived before in a world not this,
Where be pictures a magical twilight bliss?
Are these the memories that come and go,
And leave a regret too vague to know
By a syllabled name? 'Tis a breath—a thought,
When we try to grasp and retain it—naught.
And if we moved thro' this mystical sphere,
In unfilled longings that leave us here,
Why not again, in a dreamland new,
Where these ghosts of thought that I whisper to you
Will come to mock me, unfinished still?
Will the half unrest that pursues us, fill,
With its shadowy form, our after time?
Or shall we advance thro' each new clime,
Till all that hell's forgot shall lie,
And the broken chords, with their echoes, die?

Our Story Teller.

HERVEY DAVENANT.

"Brother Hervey, I expect a visitor," Miss Jane Davenant said, nervously, one morning, as she handed her brother his third cup of tea. "I hope you won't mind, dear."

"Now, Jane, what's the use of hoping any such thing, when you know perfectly well that I shall mind?" Mr. Davenant answered, with a grim smile and a shrug of his broad shoulders.

"I'm very sorry, dear."

"Very sorry!" Mr. Davenant exclaimed. "That's so like a woman, Jane. Why do you invite people here? If you didn't you would have no occasion to be sorry, and so escape a very unpleasant mental condition," he added, in an argumentative tone which his sister dreaded more than anything else in the world; for if she were once beguiled into a controversy with Hervey, her point, whatever it might be, was lost.

"I don't like this doing anything that displeases you, brother; but in this instance I don't really see how I can help myself. I had a letter from an old schoolfellow, requesting him to give let—"

"There, Jane—pray do not go into explanations. You've had letters from old schoolfellows, requesting the same thing, about every six months for the last fifteen years. Have her here by all means. I'll eliminate myself!" Mr. Davenant said, with a certain air of resignation. "I'll go to Wales, or Scotland, or anywhere out of reach of your old schoolfellows!"

"Now, brother, that's scarcely kind of you," Miss Jane declared, with the faintest semi-tone of indignation in her gentle voice, and something suspiciously like a tear in her soft gray eyes. "I do not often have any one come, and Miss Treherne will stay only a few weeks."

"Oh, only a few weeks!" Mr. Davenant rejoined sarcastically. "And what is to become of me during that time? Of course I shall be neglected; I always am when there's company."

"That's not very often, Hervey."

"No, fortunately. A few weeks, indeed! No rest, no quiet, no study, late breakfast, late luncheon, late dinner, late everything! No, no, Jane! Enjoy your friend's society by all means; be happy, my dear, over your afternoon tea and mutual reminiscences of by-gone days: but I'll vanish."

"That's what you must not do, Hervey," Miss Jane replied, with an unusual amount of energy. "You must remain here, brother, and help me to entertain Miss Treherne."

"Help you to entertain Miss Treherne, Jane! Well, upon my word, that's the coolest request I've heard for fifteen years!" Mr. Davenant, cried, in comical amazement.

"It's the only request of the kind I've made, brother, during fifteen years. I have respected your wish for seclusion and fallen into all your habits, and I think you might give way to me in this small matter," Miss Jane said quietly.

"True, true, sister! I'm very selfish—a perfect bear, I know; but then I hate women. You're the only endurable one I ever met, my dear; and, in consideration of your general good behavior, I'll make a martyr of myself just this once. I'll stay and endeavor to do the best of my poor ability to entertain this Miss Treherne—that is what you want, is it not?—devoutly hoping that she will not be vivacious, or intellectual, or philosophical, or strong-minded, or have missionary sympathies or agricultural tendencies; though, after all, as boredom is inevitable, one might as well be bored one way as another. When does your friend arrive, Jane?"

"This evening," Miss Jane replied, after consulting a letter. "I should like to send the carriage to Hailsham to meet her."

"Certainly, my dear. What time do we dine?"

"The same time as usual, of ccurse, brother. Miss Treherne's presence will make no difference in our arrangements, except that we shall use the large drawing-room instead of the small."

"Where I am to present myself in pentential costume at 6:15, be introduced to your friend, and hand her in to dinner!" Hervey said with his grim smile. "I'll be there, Jane, though I would just as soon go to the dentist and have my soundest premolar extracted. You may rely upon me, sister. And now go and commence those mysterious preparations which I have witnessed from time to time. Harass the cook, worry the butler, torment your maid, fidget yourself into a fit or a fever, simply because there's a woman coming to stay for a few days. Go, my dear, and leave me to quiet contemplation of the great event."

Miss Jane, in mute obedience, took up her key basket and left the breakfast room, while her brother threw down the *Times* and marched up and down the apartment in a sort of comic consternation.

A tall, broad-shouldered, deep-chested, man of 40, looking much older, with brown eyes, deeply set under heavy brows, brown skin, brown hair, whiskers, beard and mustache, save for the streaks of silver they showed, a fine set of white teeth and a firm, decided chin—a handsome, healthy, wealthy man, with an iron constiution and perfect digestion; by nature genial, sociable, generous, with a good deal of dry humor; by habit grim, sarcastic, taciturn; a man who, without any apparent reason, adopted misanthropy as a religion, and rigorously lived up to his creed—such was Hervey Davenant.

At five-and-twenty he had returned from a prolonged foreign tour to find both his father and mother dead and himself heir to a large unencumbered estate. Without any demonstrations of joy or sorrow, he had settled down at Davenant Hall with his only sister; there his persistent seclusion soon cut him off from old friends and prevented him from making new. Miss Jane, though ten years older, looked up to and reverenced her brother with a blind eye of hero-worship. Though personally fond of society, she acquiesced in all Harvey's plans, and fell into his ways insensibly. Miss Jane had met with a disappointment when very young, and, though neither soured nor blighted by it, people saw at a glance that "Miss Jane" she would remain to the end of the chapter.

But, for all her apparent devotion to Harvey and unprotesting sanction of his mode of life, Miss Jane, in her secret soul, was not satisfied. She thought it a sin and a shame that her grand, handsome, clever brother should mope away the best years of his life in a gloomy library, surrounded by musty folios, and dusty dead bats and beetles, and other hateful *debris* of animal life. She longed to see him married and filling his proper place in society, and not venturing openly to express her wishes, set numerous little traps to catch his unsuspecting and unwary affections. But though Miss Jane fancied that she arranged her plans with Machiavellian diplomacy, they were as transparent as water to the keen perception of the intended victim. Hervey seemed to know by intuition when an ambuscade was prepared, and always managed to cover his retreat, if not with dignity, at least with security to himself and defeat to the enemy.

But Miss Jane was an inveterate matchmaker, and pursued her designs year after year, very hopeful of ultimate success despite repeated failure; though the ninety-ninth matrimonial bait for Hervey failed, she set the hundredth with unshaken faith. With Miss Treherne she meant to take the citadel by storm. Never before had she gone so openly and undisguisedly to work; and her plan would at least have the advantage of novelty.

A lady visitor at Davenant Hall, the misanthrope regarded as a simple nuisance, which necessitated his leaving home for as long a period as she chose to remain; but as he could generally contrive to make himself tolerably comfortable in a hotel somewhere, he did not regard the arrival of one of Jane's friends as a very serious disaster. But that there should be a visitor, and that he should have to remain at home, meet her, and help to entertain her, was quite another thing; how to set about such a task exercised his mind a good deal. Still, he reflected, Jane was a very good creature, who seldom troubled him in any way; doubtless her friend was a very dear old one, or she would not be so anxious that he should show her some attention. She was not dangerous from a matrimonial point of view—on that head he was quite satisfied—or she would have been introduced surreptitiously, and made known to him without warning. In all probability she was a prim, antiquated lady in lace mittens and spectacles, probably with extreme religious views, and perhaps chronic bronchitis. She would be a bore, however—of that he was morally certain; still, to oblige Jane, he would, if it were necessary, be civil to any six of the most objectionable of her school fellows, for in his secret heart, far down below the cynical and misanthropical strain, Hervey Davenant dearly loved his sister.

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"This is Miss Treherne, Hervey. Effie, my love, this is my brother," Miss Jane said hurriedly, inverting the usual order of introduction in her blind belief in Mr. Davenan'ts absolute supremacy.

"How do you do, Mr. Davenant?"

The misanthrope was standing on the white fleecy hearthrug in the drawing-room, looking down curiously at a young girl who knelt there, warming her hands before a blazing fire—a very slight girl, dressed in black, with pale golden wavy hair fastened carelessly with a black ribbon low down on her neck, bright hazel eyes, a delicate colorless complexion, and a sweet happy smile. She looked little more than a child as she knelt in the firelight and glanced up half curiously, half fearfully at Hervey, who, after making a formal bow and muttering some unintelligible commonplace on the pleasure of meeting his sister's friend, stood solemnly silent.

A bright imperious winning little girl, with a half-pleading, half commanding voice and wholly fascinating manner. Effie Treherne rubbed her delicate little white hands, and prattled about her journey, her impressions of the country, of Davenant Hall, and every object that chanced to catch her observant eye as she was driven from Hailsham. In a few moments dinner was announced, and, silent still, with a gravity that was more sad than grim, Hervey took the young lady to the dining-room, and, with a politeness which Lord Chesterfield himself might have envied, anticipated all her wants and wishes. In her wildest flights of imagination Miss Jane never pictured such a metamorphosis in her morose brother; and yet she was not satisfied. All through dinner she was nervous and unhappy; there was a look of self reproach and positive pain in Harvey's eyes which she could not at all comprehend. He looked at Effie Treherne in a strange, thoughtful way, as though he were endeavoring to recollect an old rather than study a new face. Miss Jane was very unhappy; she feared she had made a terrible mistake without having the faintest idea what it was; so that, between her anxiety and Harvey's silence, the dinner was but a dull affair, in spite of Effie's lively chatter and flow of eager childish questions.

At length it was over. Hervey held the door open for his sister and her visitor to pass, promised to join them very soon, and then made a dash up to his room, crammed some miscellaneous articles into a portmanteau, rang his bell violently, and by the time it was answered forgot what he rang for, kicked the portmanteau out of sight, and returning to the dining-room, rested his elbows on the table, his head upon his hands, and indulged in a long reflection. His 40 years sat more heavily upon him that night than he ever remembered to have felt them before; his brow seemed marked with deeper lines, his very hair appeared to him to have grown grayer, and a look of suffering had come into his eyes since they rested three hours before on Effie Treherne's face in the firelight. The misanthrope had received a shock, for which Miss Jane's philosophy could in no way account; there was something at the bottom of it, she felt confident—and so indeed there was.

The romance of Hervey Davenant's somewhat unromantic life, the secret of his gloomy misanthropical notions had at last come to the surface, dragged from its hiding-place by the face and voice of Effie. With painful distinctness they recalled to Hervey's remembrance the garden of a pretty villa on the South Coast on a sultry July evening 20 years before. A young girl, with Effie's hazel eyes, pale golden hair, and winning voice, sat on a low garden-chair, listlessly pulling a great crimson rose to pieces and strewing its velvety petals over her white dress and on the grass at her feet. Her face was very pale, her eyes had a strange unrest in them, though her voice was calm enough, as she told the dark-eyed, eager faced boy, who leaned familiarly over the back of her chair, that she expected a friend the next day—the gentleman to whom she was engaged. This was in reply to some impassioned remarks of the boy's, as he secretly caressed one of the soft golden curls that hung over her shoulders. He remembered, by though he was, how the evening sky suddenly became overcast, how the flowers seemed to lose their perfume, and how the blue sea in the distance grew troubled and sighed in sympathy with the desolation that had fallen upon him. In the few seconds that silently elapsed after those simple words of Alice Leigh's he seemed to die and be buried, to experience a succession of infinite changes, to rise again a man, like in outward semblance only to the eager-faced boy of the past. He had known Alice Leigh five weeks—long, glorious, golden, utterly unclouded weeks. The first shadow that ever fell upon them was their annihilation. Alice was engaged to be married, and Hervey Davenant was dead and buried—passed away out of sight and mind as though he had never been.

With a smilling face and uncloudedbrow Hervey said farewell to Alice and her father—to bright dreams and golden visions of the precious five weeks, to hope and faith and trust and happiness. With a gay adieu he left the villa, smiling bitterly to himself, as he proceeded down the path, at the sweetness, the power, and the cruelty of a woman. A few short weeks before he was a human being instinct with life and hope; now he was a ghost doomed for a certain time to walk the earth hopeless and joyless because Alice Leigh was engaged to be married.

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"Must you leave us, Effie?"

Effie Treherne bowed her head over her embroidery, blushed vividly, wondered where on earth "Aunt Jane" was—plainly she was much at home among them—and finally glanced up in mute appeal not to be questioned any further.

But Hervey Davenant was sitting by her side on the sofa, effectually cutting off her retreat, very grave, very resolute, though not quite so grim-looking as on that evening a month before when she glanced up at him so curiously from the rug.

"Tell me, dear—must you leave us?" he repeated more sternly. He meant to have an answer.

"No, I mustn't, but I should," was the vague reply, after much hesitation and sundry glances in the direction of the door.

"Why should you? Are you not very happy, Effie?"

"Yes; but, but—"

"But what, dear?"

"I wish you wouldn't ask me so many question, Mr. Davenaan," the girl said desperately.

"I have just one more to ask, dear—only one," Harvey whispered, drawing closer to her. "Listen, Effie."

"Oh, no, no, please!"—and Effie's little hands were clasped over her eyes in protest.

But Hervey drew them both away with one of his and looked earnestly and tenderly into her face. It was a tell-tale countenance; but Hervey had watched it once before and misinterpreted what it said; he meant to have a plain answer this time.

"Look at me, Effie—look up into my face and listen. I love you, my darling—I love you. Can you ever learn to care anything about me?" he asked very slowly and earnestly.

"Oh, Mr. Davenant, let me go! Please, please—"

"Answer me first, dear. I must—I will have a reply; I have a right to it! Can you ever learn to love me, dear?"

"No, Hervey"—the reply came from the depths of the couch whereon she had taken refuge—"because—because—I know how already!"

"My darling," and Hervey kissed the golden head very tenderly, "my own little darling!"

Presently Miss Jane entered the room in search of her key basket, and Hervey inquired her reasons for throwing the child in the way of such a very objectionable young man. And upbraiding her said:

"How could you, Jane? In escaping Scylla our Effie has fallen on Charybdis with a vengeance! What will her uncle and aunt say, I wonder?"

"Why, that she's a very fortunate girl, of course!" Miss Jane replied, complacently. "But, really, brother, I assure you it was but a mere chance, after all."

"No matter, Jane; I'm not the first fellow whose fate has been so decided, and I have no intention of quarreling with any circumstance that has given me Effie."

"She's a dear good girl, brother, and as worthy of you as any woman can be; but she is not so pretty as her mother was," Miss Jane added reflectively.

Womanlike, the moment her point was gained she began to regret it.

"Who was her mother, sister?"

"Alice Leigh, sister to my dearest friend at school, a beautiful creature, but giddy, Hervey—very giddy, and fond to distraction of her own beauty. She made what was supposed to be a grand match; but Mr. Treherne failed in business, turned out badly, and treated his young wife shamefully. She died of consumption, the doctors said—of a broken heart, I say. Effie was her only child."

"And she's like her," Harvey observed thoughtfully; "marvelously like."

"Yes," Miss Jane assented, in some surprise, "she resembles her mother; but she's not nearly so pretty. Poor Alice!"

"Poor Alice!" Harvey Davenant repeated, with a deep sigh. "Died of a broken heart; and Effie is her daughter!"

If Harvey Davenant wanted his revenge, he had it, after twenty years.

A New Fruit.

A newly imported bush fruit from South America is being introduced among the fruit-growers of Los Angeles, Cal. It is called the melon shrub. It bears a luscious fruit about the size of a goose egg, and produces a fruit all the year round.

The annual report of Chicago's public health commissioner shows that in 1884 there were 12,471 deaths in the city, against 11,555 the preceding year.

Humor.

Mixing Business and Matrimony.

As an evidence of the keen business instinct prevalent in this age of trade, we may state that a London advertising agent, who were married this week by a Registrar in the West End, endeavored during the service to book that official for an advertising order. The conversation as it is reported to us, was as follows:

Registrar—"Will you please, sir, repeat these words after me: 'I, C—— P——, do solemly declare.'"

Bridegroom—"I, C—— P——, do solemnly declare. Did I observe you, sir, cutting an advertisement from your newspaper when I came in?"

Registrar—"Yes, I sometimes have the advertising of births, deaths, and marriages intrusted to me. Let us, if you please, proceed with the marriage. 'That I know of no lawful impediment——.'"

Bridegroom—"That I know of no lawful impediment—— May I take the opportunity, sir, of explaining to you and others who are present the nature of my business? You will find in these circulars that in the matter of any of the advertisements you mention you can effect a considerable saving by placing the order with me."

Registrar—"Really, sir, this is most irregular and improper. I must have your attention for the remainder of the service. 'Why I, C—— P——, should not enter into matrimony with thee, D—— M.' At a commission of five per cent, sir, I am prepared to accept the smallest order for any paper in Great Britain, Ireland, the Colonies, India and abroad." Tableau.—*London Echo.*

The Cautious Women.

"All women are alike in their fear of the cars," said an Illinois Central conductor. "They carry their caution to absurd extremes. That reminds of a little story. Down in the southern part of the state we have up at road-crossings some of the old-fashioned signs, 'Look out for the cars when the bell rings.' At one of the crossings the other day two women came up, driving an old horse hitched to a buggy. They looked about and couldn't see any cars, but happened to read the sign, 'Stop,' said one, 'I hear a bell.' They both listened, and sure enough they heard a bell tinkling. One of the women got out, and amid considerable excitement took hold of the horse's bridle. The other one tightened her grip on the lines, sat her jaws, and prepared for the worst. They looked anxiously up the track for the train, but still couldn't see it, though they could hear it a little plainer than before. They waited and waited. Five minutes passed, then ten, and still no train. The old horse went to sleep, while the women's nerves, from long straining, threatened to throw them into hysterics. Nearer and nearer came the bell against which the sign warned them, and so they stood still. In about a quarter of an hour an old brindle cow came walking down the pasture by the side of the track, chewing her cud and monotonously ringing her bell. One of the women cried, from nervousness, and the other one got mad at the railroad company, and said they were nothing but mean, old monopolies, anyway."

Why She Sang High G.

New York Correspondence Buffalo Express.

A lot of girls were practising some choral pieces for the forthcoming Christmas services at the snug and luxurious Trinity chapel. Brother Dix is nothing if not intensely literary in his worshipful duties, and he was just tickled almost to death because he had been able to borrow some ancient music written in the missal style of the sixteenth century. A huge page of the precious melody, with notes as big as placques, and embellished with heads of saints and angels, was displayed on an easel in front of them. They were expected to enthuse mightily over this treasure of art and religion, and raise their voices, reverentially to the mummified tune. There was one girl, a high, squeaky soprano, who seemed to have a vocal explosion at a certain point, sending one note up like a sky rocket. It was a little startled, and let her try it over and over again, but ever with the same phenomenon.

"I beg your pardon, Miss Sophie," he said blandly, "but where do you find that note away up in high G?"

She gazed fixedly at the ornate sheet of music, with its conglomeration of notes and cherubim. Then she emitted a te-he and said: "Well, doctor, if I haven't been singing the head of that bald angel ever time I came to it!"

A Fable from the Sanscrit.

A poet, a scientist, and an artist all passed the bazaar of a wretched son of Japhet who had not cleaned the snow from his sidewalk.

The poet sat down. Then he gracefully arose and murmured: "Oh, the poetry of motion, how grand, how touching!"

Then the scientist sat down. He, too, arose and rapturously exclaimed: "Oh, the wonders of science! More heavenly bodies have I seen than e'er astronomer before discovered."

The philosopher reposed for an instant. As he gathered up the remains he placidly observed: "Oh, the incomprehensibility of fatality, how glorious are thy mandates, to which I humbly bow!"

Then there passed that way a matter-of-fact Caucasian. He, too, paused. He did not rise but rent the stilly air with loud imprecations and wild gesticulations. "May I be corswallupped into pumpkin juice," he howled, "if I don't have the law of that lazy Sam Jones!" and his neighbors raked him into a herdic and stowed him away in a hospital.

He Began to Suspect She Meant It.

Rockland Gazette.

He had stayed and stayed and stayed, and was still staying, when, either by accident or design, she gaped loudly.

"You don't mean to say you did that on purpose?" he playfully asked.

Without answering this leading question she looked him carefully in the eye and said:

"Can you tell me the difference between my somewhat impolite exclamation and an article of dining-room furniture?"

"No-o," he falteringly returned.

"The difference," she explained, inadvertently directing her gaze, toward his hat, "the difference lies in the fact that one is a sideboard while the other was a bored sigh!"

Mechanically his eyes followed the direction of her steadfast gaze, and encountering the hat, he put it on in a dazed sort of way, and the convention adjourned.

His Educated Wife.

Jones—I tell you what it is there's nothing like having a highly-educated wife.

Smith—I am a great admirer of cultivated women myself, and hope when I marry I will get one.

"Take no other, my friend. Take no other. You don't know how much unpleasantness I have escaped on account of my wife's accomplishments."

"I do not quite catch your drift."

"Well, you see, the first time she welcomed me with a curtain lecture I whispered to her that the servants might overhear. So, ever since that she has always done her scolding in French."

"A good idea, certainly, but how does that relieve you?"

"I don't understand the language."

MRS. HOMESPUN'S DISAPPOINTMENT.

The Paper Didn't Say Whether They Danced.

I declare, mother!" exclaimed Mr. Homespun, looking over his newspaper "they had quite a time down to the hall last night."

"Well, what kind of a time was it?" replied Mrs. H. "I knowed somethin' or other was goin' on there. The Spriggins gals had their hair done up in papers all day yesterday, and I seen 'em goin' down town last night, all rigged out in their Sunday best, and smellin' like a 'pothecary shop. And there was a crowd 'round the hall all day, and they was carryin' in boxes and barrels by the cartloads. What does the paper say, father?"

"Where was that now?" said Mr. Homespun, turning the paper over and over in his search. "Oh! here it is: 'Terpsichorean Revels'—wonder what in thunder that is!"

"Never mind, father. It sounds kinder nice. It'll tell, probably, pretty soon."

Homespun began again: "Terpsichorean Revels. There was a notable gathering of the wealth and fashion of Huckleberryville at the town hall last night, the occasion being graced by the 'elite of the town.'"

"That must mean the Eliots on the hill. Go on, father. Let's see what 't was all about."

"The air was redolent of sweet sounds and flashing lights and happy faces. The fair ladies and brave men interwove in kaleidoscopic movement, while to brisk tunes in cadence beating glanced their twinkling feet."

"Well," interrupted Mrs. H., "they seemed to have had a real right-down good time. But I should er thought they'd had some dancin'; them Spriggins gals are awful fond of it—"

"There's more on 't," remarked Homespun resuming his reading: "Music arose with its voluptuous swell, and in the intoxication of the hour even our oldest and staidest citizens forgot their years and were soon tripping the light fantastic toe as nimbly and as joyfully as the younger devotees to the divine Terpsichore."

"So they did have music," commented Mrs. H. "Strange they didn't have dancing, too."

"Praps we'll come to that later on," replied Homespun. "Let's see. where was I? Oh, yes! 'Divine Terpsichore.' Somebody from the city, probably. 'Even the good deacon D. did not think it derogatory to his exalted position to tread a merry measure, and another pillar of the church actually joined in the waltz's giddy whirl.'"

"That must mean Mr. Crawthumper and 'Deacon D.' is Deacon Dorcas, of course. P'raps that's why they didn't have any dancin', cause they was there. Any more of it?"

"Yes, a little more. I guess you'll find they didn't go home without shaking a leg. Let's see: 'Take it all in all, the scene was one long to be remembered. The tuneful orchestra discoursing sweet sounds, richly dressed couples gliding hither and thither and in a light fantastic round, and the commonplace movements of young and old transformed by music's subtle power into the very poetry of motion. It seems that they didn't dance, after all."

"No," replied Mrs. H.; "guess next time they'll look out that old Crawthumper and the deacon don't come in to spoil their fun. Some folks, just 'cause they don't like a good time themselves, ain't willin' that anybody else should enjoy themselves."—*Boston Transcript.*

Admiral Foote and the Gun Boats.

In the railway train a gentleman who sat in front of me, learning that I had constructed Foote's vessels, introduced himself as Judge Foote, of Cleveland, a brother of the admiral. Among other interesting matters, he related an anecdote of one of his little daughters who was just learning to read. After the capture of Fort Henry the squadron was brought back to Cairo for repairs, and, on the Sunday following, the crew with their gallant flag-officer, attended one of the churches in Cairo. Admiral Foote was a thorough Christian gentleman and excellent impromptu speaker. Upon this occasion, after the congregation had assembled, some one whispered to him that the minister was ill and would be unable to officiate; whereupon the admiral went up into the pulpit himself, and after the usual prayer and hymn, he selected, as the text, John xiv. 1, 'Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me.' Upon this text he delivered what was declared to be an excellent sermon, or exhortation, after which he dismissed the congregation. An account of the sermon was widely published in the papers at the time, and came into hands of the little niece just referred to After she had read it, she exclaimed to her father:

"Uncle Foote did not say that right."

"Say what right?" asked the father.

"Why, when he preached."

"What did he say?"

"He said, 'Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me.'"

"Well, what should he have said?" inquired the father.

"Well, he ought to have said, 'Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in the gun boats.'"—*James B. Eads, in the Century.*

A Sharp Boy.

The conductor of a Chicago & Northwestern train was bragging about his boy. "I live out at Oak Park, just by the track," he said. "My boy is 12 years old, and one of the rushingest, grittiest little chaps in Illinois. He is always passing railroad folks, but train boys are his special aversion. There is a standing grudge between him and every train boy on the road. The other day when the snow had just began to melt my boy was walking along the track with a bucket of milk in his hand. An express was just pulling out of the station and the train boy picked up some snow off the steps of the car, made a hard ball, and let my by boy have it right on the nose. What do you suppose the boy did? He dropped his bucket, climbed on the rear end of the train, pulled the bell rope, rushed through the sleepers, jumped onto the train boy, knocked him down, rammed a whole lot of cold snow down the back of his neck, jumped off, ran back, picked up his milk bucket, and trotted home without saying a word, while the conductor and brakeman were out storming around, trying to find out what the bell-rope was pulled for. That's what I call a boy. He'll be a general passenger agent some day, see if he isn't."—*Chicago Herald.*

Very Awkward, Indeed.

It was horribly awkward. Yes, they were staying at a "winter resort" and it rather disagreeable to have everybody so painfully aware of the fact that it was their wedding tour. So he made a desperate appeal to their confidential waiter. And Peter took it and smiled confidently and said that he'd see to it, yessir. And the next day at dinner the people in the hotel behaved in the strangest manner—it was positively insulting, you know, and she said she had never been looked at in such a way in all her life before. And so when they were leaving the table he said to Peter privately: "Peter, did you attend to that little matter I spoke to you about yesterday?" "Oh, yes sir," said Peter, smiling confidentially; "oh, dear, yessir. I done it, sir—I see to it. I told 'em you wasn't no bridal couple, sir—hadn't never been married, sir. Oh, yessir, it's all right, sir."—*German Paper.*

CHOOSING A PRESENT.

A San Francisco Husband Relates a Christmas Reminiscence.

She was fond of lace. I had heard her talk of lace, and lace it should be. So I marched boldly into a very swell dry goods store, with a great deal of style and a small amount of money. The dry goods man I knew. The boss waited on me himself and seemed more than friendly when I confided to him that I proposed to buy something in lace for a lady. I said: "Something in lace." I was afraid I would look ridiculous if I gave it any particular form or application.

"Good?"

"Certainly; as good as you can give me. Something fit for an impressionable young woman, of whom you are not quite sure."

"All right. I presume you don't want anything but the real thing?"

"I would not dream of it. Expense is not so much an objection."

I did not really mean that. He smiled and led me away into a corner.

"You're a friend of mine," said he; "you shall have something choice."

"I'm glad I came here," said I to myself. Some ladies who had overhead the word lace gradually approached the corner and began to display an indifference to the proceedings. My friend brought a box—a plain looking box—and opened it.

"Now, here's something good."

A suppressed murmur of admiration arose from the ladies around us.

"Ah, that is something worth buying," said I with the eye of a connoisseur, beginning to feel for a twenty-dollar gold piece I had somewhere.

"Do you like this? Well, I won't tell you what we sell it at, but as you are a friend I don't want to make anything out of you——"

"You're a good fellow. Some day I will——"

"I can let you have it for $2,000."

I usually have considerable presence of mind. I hadn't it with me at the moment. My face betrayed me, and a grin began to spread over the features of the ladies. In a moment I recovered.

"I will take that——"

The ladies started and examined me all over. The facetious dry goods man started.

"Box," said I aside, "and you can put in two holes out of the pattern."—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

Dialect Studies.

Newcastle (Eng.) Weekly Chronicle.

A GOOD CONSTITUTION.—A woman, who resides near a certain beautiful vale on the outskirts of Newcastle, had for some time been in a state of delicate health. After some persuasion on the part of her friends and neighbors, she decided to consult a doctor. The day following that on which she had received medical advice, she called upon a neighbor. "Well, what has the doctor tell'd thoo?" said her friend. "Oh," she replied, "he says aa'm dyun this time. He says aa hev palpitation, and my hairt's affected, and byeth me lungs is gyen, and aa'm in deep consumption; but he says aa have a good constitution, so aa'll mebbies pull through!"

ENGLISH OR FOREIGN?—"Is them apples English or foreign?" inquired an old lady, who was taking tea with her niece. "Wey, to tell thee the truth, aunt," replied the niece, "thor neither English nor foreign, for they wor graan in wor ann garden."

NEWCASTLE'S DEFICIENT.—A country laborer near Alnwick paid a visit to Newcastle, and on his return was asked what he thought of the place. "Why," was the reply, "I think it wad be a nice playce if it had been built i' the country!"

THE CELESTIAL ROAD.—A certain stationmaster within 100 miles of Darlington, was, during his early life very much addicted to the "cup that cheers," etc. He has; however, toned down and taken to the pulpit. Preaching at a northern village the other day, he, in the course of his sermon, commenced to describe metaphorically the heavenly road they were travelling, and seeing the village stationmaster, who was not particularly liked by the natives, seated there, he said: "There's yor worthy stationmaster; aa've ridden mony a mile wiv him in the train, hevn't aa, Mr. Broon?" The gentleman addressed nodded. "But we are in a different train noo, Mr. Broon; we are in the train for Heaven." A pitman among the audience hurriedly rose and exclaimed, "Had on, mate, if thoo's gannin' with wor stationmaister, thoo's in the rang train for Hivea!"

A TESTIMONIAL.—At one of our Tyneside workshops a testimonial was being got up for a workman who had won the respect and esteem of his comrades. During a conversation between two of the workshop laborers, the following question was made:

"Aa say, Frank, they tell me they're gan to present Jim wiv a testimonial; but dis thoo think he can play't?"

How to Make Her Perfectly Safe.

Every toboggan carries a lady, and there is just enough danger to make it delightfully exciting.

The lady takes her seat on the soft cushions, her feet firmly braced against the front piece, which curls over and covers them, her hands grasping the rail at either side, the body slightly thrown backward. All will go well if she doe snot move, but woe betide the girl who stirs an inch to the right or left!

The steerer takes his place behind. His position is optional, but the general mode is to lie on the left side, propped on one arm, with the right leg extended, which is used for steering.

"Our invariable rule," said a friend, "is to hold on to your girl, and there are critical moments when a very tight hold is absolutely necessary."—*Harper's Bazar.*

He Might Have Put on Mourning.

"What is that you say? Harry married? Well, I'll never believe in men again."

"Why?"

"The oaths of love that man swore to to me!"

"Well, but you threw him over. You've been married three months."

"I don't care. He was so devoted to me, and when Jack proposed to me and I accepted, Harry declered that he would be true to my memory and mourn me as one dead to him."

"Well, it is of no consequence now to you."

"He might have been decent about it. He might have gone into mourning for a year, anyhow."

Guess Her Weight.

If I were in business, I think I could borrow an idea along with the other things which I would borrow, that would be worth a pot of money. Instead of standing a mare in my show window for people to guess the weight of, I would hire a pale, spiritual blonde girl, with very little adipose, and a great deal of brain and eyes. I would have her attire herself in a Mother Hubbard, and I would give her permission to marry the man who could guess most closely her weight. If you have ever seen a girl in a Mother Hubbard you would know that there is not a more deceptive being as to heft, on the footstool. No matter whether she weighs 80 pounds or 180, it's all one in that costume. I would sooner make money that way than conduct a street car.—*St. Louis Post Dispatch.*

Miscellany.

ON THE WING.

Some of the Strange Things a Man Sees When He Has No Gun.

You may, or you may not, know, as it, perhaps, the case either way, that writing on the cars is attended with certain difficulties and unterrupted by uncertain incidents. The more uncertain the incident the more liable is it to happen, and the more nervously you anticipate it, the more certainly does it never happen. You grasp this, I trust? And that, kind reader, is the only thing I will trust you with.

No matter how smoothly the train is running when you are doing nothing, it begins to jump and roll when you begin to write. Then—this car has just jumped over a stump; now it is running, I think, in the bed of a creek—an old abandoned bed at that, which was so rough that no creek could run in it. If the creek bed is more abandoned than the language of the passenger who just now caught hold of the stove to steady himself as the train corkscrewed itself around a reversed curve, it must be something terrible. I will not even look at it.

At Allentown, Pa., a party of Pennsylvania Dutch ladies, attended by a numerous retinue of children, mostly boys and girls, got on the car and proceeded to occupy the territory, already pre-empted under the laws of the road by existing passengers. I have two children billeted upon me, the elder being several years the senior of her little brother. I do not mind it, because I am fond of the company of young people. But the commercial traveler, who happened to be temporarily absent and has returned to find his claim jumped by five children, is mad about it. There are four ladies in the traveling party and 32 children. The youngest child can just walk, and the eldest is so young that the conductor can't get a single half-fare out of the whole crowd. So many children, all rugged and healthy as kids, apportioned between four mothers isn't so bad.

If the gentleman with the Kentucky breath, sitting in the next seat, leans over much further in his effort to see what I am writing, he will fall into the coal-box. What did I tell you? There he goes. But I was wrong in my diagnosis. We struck the other curve and he fell out of the window.

The ladies hereinbefore mentioned are conversing in Pennsylvania Dutch. It is a most distracting language to listen to. About one-fifth of the words are plain English, and the rest are half-breeds and thoroughbred Dutch. So you can understand just enough of what they say to make you wild to know the rest of it.

I find that I was mistaken in attributing those 32 children to four mothers. One of the ladies, I learn, is the mother of the other three. That makes it about right. I thought the families were rather small for the country.—*Burdette.*

How to Manage a Husband.

Supposing you have a husband whom you wish to twine around your little finger, you must first love him "with all your heart, with all your soul," etc., and the love you feel will make it possible to put up with all those little discrepancies which crop out in man's nature when you come to live with him, for the best of men become monotonous after awhile. In the first place, should your husband be a man of business, who comes home tired to death, cross and worn out, do not at once entertain him with the troubles you have gone through during the day. I always found it an excellent plan to hide disagreeables entirely from a husband's notice. Oh, how men hate tears; how they detest household details. Of all things, when your husband comes home, see that his dinner is well cooked. You don't know how a man appreciates a loving welcome and a good dinner after the toil of the day. There are many women who object to being "bossed," as they call it. My dear ladies, you can always be boss if you take the trouble. By giving in you get your way as you never would by fighting for it. Should you wish for anything particularly, don't insist upon it after refusal. Of course you must have it, but bide your

A HUMAN PUZZLE.

A Mathematical Machine and Marvelous Man.

A correspondent, "P. Arker," thus writes the BLADE regarding a queer and remarkable man: In the little town of Fayetteville, Johnson Co., Mo., lives a most remarkable man, Prof. Reuben Fields, as he calls him self, is now about 32 years of age, of stout build, somewhat florid complexion, and a cast or twist in one of his eyes, that gives him a rather singular expression. When the writer of this met him about five years ago he had never been to school, could neither read or write, and was as ignorant a man, as far as book learning goes, as can be found in the state of Missouri. But Fields has a faculty of gift to which is probably not possessed, to such a degree by any other person in this country, and the possession of which, by some individual with a business turn, would be a source of wealth. What this gift is I cannot tell, but will give you some examples of it and the reader may give it a name if he can find one to suit. Upon my introduction to him, I was informed that Fields could give an answer to any sum in figures that could be given to him, and instantaneously, without calculation or thought. Thinking to test this more than lightning calculator, I asked: "Reuben, how many seconds old am I?" giving the date of my birth and he barely waited my last word until he gave the answer, and figuring it I found it to be correct. The next question was: "How many bricks are there in a mile?" giving the dimensions in feet, and in tantly came the correct answer. Another and more difficult question came next: "If a dollar had been put at interest, in the year one, what would it amount to, principal and interest, at six per cent, to date?" He caught my meaning and answered before the question was fully given, and after a tedious amount of figuring it was proved to be correct. Another: "A dollar is put out at ten per cent interest, from the creation, compounded." "There are not enough figures known to give it in," he interrupted. "What," said I, "not enough figures?" "Well," he replied, "I can't get enough figures together to give it. It might be put down in terms of something, but not otherwise." Whether he was correct or not I have never ascertained. To my query of on what day of the week will the 4 h of July occur in the year 4000, his answer came as promptly. Taking down his answer, and consulting a perpetual calendar shortly afterwards, it was proven correct. This was getting interesting, and coming a step years and all must have involved an immense calculation outside of mere figures, or simple addition and multiplication. When I came back to figures again I asked him: "It being 25,000 miles around the earth, how many foot-seed, counting sixteen to the rod, would it take to reach around?" ent the answer came before I was fairly through with the question.

A few more tests of this man's wonderful power: The dimensions of a boiler being given he instantly stated the number of cubic inches in it. To this problem: A stream of water runs into a cistern through a half inch pipe, dimension of cistern being given, at the rate of so many gallons per hour, how long would it take to fill it, and how long to empty it through a three-quarter inch pipe? He gave an immediate and correct answer. Many other intricate problems were given him that he was never stalled. When it is known, as it positively is, that this man was never at school, and can neither read or write, one is lost in wonder. That no mental calculation is made is evident to any one who asks questions of Fields and leaves him in mystery. An educated man, who practices in such exercises, if given time might answer some of these questions; but even in such a man the fact would be wonderful. When Zera Colburn was before the French academy of science to questions propounded to him of a similar nature, the time required was noted, and showed that a mental process was in operation. But Colburn had been in the habit of studying mathematical problems from childhood up and was an accomplished scholar and professor in an eastern institute of learning. Questioning Fields as to how he answers the questions put to him he can give no reason or theory. He answered my interrogatory to this effect by asking me how I knew a door was a door, a window a window.

"I know things," he continued, "they come to me in the clicking of a telegraph." Fields has another faculty also, nearly as remarkable as the one I have specified to such a length. He can give the time of day or night in New York or San Francisco, and correct to a second. It is a trick of his to bet a man he can tell him what time it is by his watch, allowing a minute or two for the variations in watches, and he was never known to lose. He is asked, what does the man does for a living? and the answer is, he simply does nothing. Work, he will not, even to cut a stick of wood for his widowed mother, who, like himself, is quite poor. Occasionally he will help on the tax-books or at invoicing a stock of goods. He travels through a few counties in western Missouri, and has been, I believe, before some scientific men in St. Louis for examination, and was in much a puzzle to them as to the rest of the world. The railroad officials all know him, and he pays for his rides by answering their questions, giving them the number of revolutions of a car wheel, diameter being stated, between any given points, and was never known to make a mistake. His manner of invoicing is to have the clerks call off the number of yards and price per yard, or pounds and price per pound, and right from the shoulder, giving the sums, he will give the total amount in all corners to, carrying it along in his head through the most extensive stock. A dozen clerks calling can after another does not confuse him. This is not the end of Fields's accomplishments. He can handle snakes of the most venomous kind without injury to himself. His father, now dead, was a blacksmith, and Reuben, a boy about the shop, would handle the most vicious mule without receiving injury, and Missouri has a varied assortment of this species of light-footed animals. The people who know this genius say he is partly idiotic, but in this I think they do him an injustice. He has something like cataleptic fits occasionally, "spells," he calls them, and knows nothing while in that condition. How much credence can be placed in his personal statements I am not told enough to say, but he is considered as truthful as he is harmless. He has been offered $300 a month to travel and exhibit his wonderful powers, but no money would tempt him to do it. His remark to me in this connection was that the Almighty did not give him his faculty to make a circus of himself. When asked why he did not go to school and learn, his answer was: "I know more now than the teachers, and should I attempt book learning I would lose my faculty." Ignorant and superstitious, his friends have been worked upon by some thoughtless parties, who have told him that when he died the doctors would cut his head open to see how it was made, and to learn how he knew so much, and this, I am told, worries him. I asked him why he did not go to some city and use his faculty to make money for his family, and his reply was that as long as he lived he could make enough to get his clothes and enough to eat, and when he is dead he would want neither. Something of a philosopher is Fields.

Meeting Fields in Independence, Mo., some time after the interview with him I have narrated here, we were sitting upon the court-house steps engaged in conversation, we had talked about his faculty, a subject on which he never tires, when he said quite decidedly and changing the subject abruptly, "it is nine o'clock and my bed time," and as he rose to his feet the clock in the tower above struck the first number of that hour, and bidding me good-night he started for the house of an acquaintance to spend the night. I was startled as the clock confirmed his words so surely, and walked puzzled to the hotel. He is as well known among the river counties of the Missouri from Saline county to Kansas City, as are any of the notable men of these counties. Sen. Vest and other well known men of Missouri vouch for him, and he carries a card with "Prof. Reuben Fields" upon it and the names of Sen. Vest and other equally well known men on it as references, though what he should want references for is not readily seen.

Now, who can explain the mysteriousness of this strange man's supernatural powers? Who can say wherein such a faculty can be in the person of an uneducated and illiterate man. If a complete education could be added with the natural gifts of the human puzzle, Fields, what a gigantic—a wonderful scholar would be evolved.

Origin of the Chaplet.

The monks were in the habit of computing time by the number of prayers they could say, and it was from this the custom of wearing chaplets of beads arose. The task assigned to each monk was to recite as many "paters" and "aves" as there were beads on his string, and, as the number on a chaplet was supposed to be ten, as it is now, 33—that is, one for each year of our Saviour's life—there was work for a good hour and a half if conscientiously performed. The monk was relieved by another, and the termination of each "vigil" was notified to the community by the tolling of the chapel bell. This custom continues unaltered in certain monastic establishments. In monasteries of a severe order, there is no such a thing as a clock. The only timekeepers are the shorn, becowled monks kneeling in perpetual adoration.

FIGHTING THE RUM DEMON.

An Engineer Who Swore Off on New Years' Day.

A number of railroad men were sitting by the red-hot stove in one of the little switch shanties, telling stories. Pretty soon the door opened and a man crowded his way in. He was a big, rough looking man, dressed in the check blouse and overalls of an engineer. His face was bloated, his eyes bloodshot, and he had not been shaven for many a day. He came in with unsteady step and a wild look in his eyes, but with his jaw set tight.

"Boys," he said, as soon as the group had greeted him with the conventional hadpy New Year, for it was the first day of January, "boys, I've gone and done it."

"Done what?" they ejaculated together.

"Swore off, boys—I've plugged the whiskey bottle this time, for sure. No mistake but I've reversed on her—a dead square reverse, and just in time, too. I was going to wreck pretty fast. She's a-grinding on me now, boys; grinding like ten thousand devils, but I'm goin' to fight her out. It's three months, you know, since I was discharged for drinking, and I've been goin from bad to worse. I've had 'em, I can tell you, and on Christmas at our house this year—on Christmas my wife asked me why I couldn't go to work and earn some money. 'I'm going to work, my dear,' says I, and then I put on my blouse and started for the round house. I haven't been home since. I don't know where I have been. But I do know that the red lights have been after me. Yes, boys, the red lights. They danced before my eyes wherever I went. The air was full of 'em—up on targets, down on the ground, wavin' across my track—everywhere. I'd turn to get away from 'em, and they were always in front of me. I'd close my eyes and then I could see a million. They drove me crazy, boys. I couldn't go ahead, nor back, nor to the right nor left, but it seemed my next step would be a wreck. There was no escaping 'em. Once I thought I was in hell and that there were ten thousand imps dancing around me, every one with great red eyes in his head."

Here the engineer sank into a seat and buried his face in his hands. His body trembled like an engine in motion. The railroad men looked at each other and shook their heads. Soon the man in the blouse started up with a cry.

"There they are again! Down brakes! For God's sake, boys, give me a drink! I must drive those devils away. Please, boys, just one drop, just to wet my tongue. Just a drop to steady my nerves, and then I'll stop."

"William! William!" called a soft voice, as the door of the little shanty opened again. "Is my husband in here? Come, William; come home with me now."

A moment later the big man in the blouse and overalls was being led away by a little woman. Every half dozen steps he would stop and look about him as if in terror; but she urged him on with gentle words, and thus they disappeared from view.

How the Mahdi Works Miracles.

London Telegraph.

The "Mahdi," it is said, is a very able, cunning man in all he does. He has had a building erected into which he retires to pray, and where he sometimes receives and speaks to his followers. Here he tells his devotees he converses with the "El Hadra," or "Holy Presence," from whom he receives instruction, direction, and advice on all matters. The credulous Arabs squat around outside that building in hundreds all day long, and when the Mahdi appears beg to be shown the "Presence," that they may die happy. "Oh, Prophet," they cry, "show us the El Hadra." With grave face Mahommed Achmed turns to some one and answers, "Wallah! that is a very serious and difficult task you seek to impose on me." He is invariably polite and always calls every one "Ya! Sini" (sir). If in a complaisant mood the Mahdi pretends to yield to their request, he invites them into his sanctuary, which is bare of furniture save a few carpets, skins, and mats, a brass bowl, and brass tray. He then bids them search the apartment to see if there is any one or anything beyond what meets their eyes concealed therein. Their answer usually is, "What need to search on, Prophet? There is nothing here." "Then leave me for a little whist I pray," replies the Mahdi, "and perhaps the Spirit may grant your request." Meligy said, when the "Prophet" was left alone, he (the Mahdi) waited a little, then lifting the brass tray, which had coffee cups standing on it, he poured a vessel of water into the bowl, replacing the tray on the top, but not so as to be resting on the bowl, for the tray was held an inch or two above the bowl either by big pieces of loaf sugar or calcined lime.

The water at once began to act upon whichever of the substances he employed, but before it had time to disintegrate them, the people were re admitted into the apartment, where all appeared as they had seen it a minute before. They were soon alarmed and terrified at seeing the tray move, and hearing the cups and dishes rattle. Sometimes a little smoke or steam accompanied these demonstrations but on every occasion on which the ignorant Arabs and negroes witnessed them, they shouted, "It is the Presence," and falling down with their foreheads pressed to the ground, remained in pious prayer until the Mahdi bade them leave him. Another plan he has for enlisting adherents is to covertly prepare a pit or hole in the ground, in which he sets matches and gunpowder. Haranguing the woolly, savage tribes who flock to hear and see him, he tells them they have nothing to fear from Turk or infidel. If necessary fire even could be sent to consume all their enemies, and that they would not need to lift their hands against them. Then, to show his power, the Mahdi drives his spear into the ground, selecting the spot prepared, and fire and smoke follow the blow. He tells them the fire will be confined, so as not to then and there burn them. Afterward his confederates come to his aid and remove the traces of the prepared stage effect.

The Engineer's Story of the Brakeman.

Several years ago I was running a fast express. One night we were three hours behind time, and if there's anything in the world I hate it's to finish a run behind schedule. These grade crossings of one-horse roads are nuisances to the train lines, and we had a habit of failing to stop, merely slacking up for 'em. At one crossing I had never seen a train at that time of night, and so I rounded the curve out of the cut at full tilt. I was astonished to see that a freight train was standing right over the crossing, evidently intending to put a few cars on our switch. I gave the danger whistle and tried to stop my train, but I had seven heavy sleepers on, and we just slid down that grade spite of everything I could do. Quicker than I can tell you the brakeman on that freight train uncoupled a car just back of our crossing and signalled his engineer to go ahead, which he did, but barely in time to let us through. In fact, the pilot of my engine took the buffer off the rear car. Through that little hole we slipped, and lives and property were saved. Now, that brakeman was only a common railroader, yet he saw that situation at a glance. There wasn't time to run his whole train off the crossing, not even half of it—barely time to pull up one car length by prompt, quick work. He kept his wits about him, as, I venture to say, not one man in a thousand would have done, and saved my reputation, if not my life. He is now a division superintendent on one of the best roads in the country.

—Recognizing the superior excellence of the St. Louis Magazine, we have arranged to furnish it with the WEEKLY BLADE at the low price of $1.75 a year for both publications, the Magazine, under its large and improved condition, being $1.50 alone. Sample copy of Magazine and set of gold colored picture cards sent to anyone for 10 cents. Address C. Gilmore, 213 N Eighth street, St. Louis, Mo.

The Pennsylvania club has forwarded a memorial to Congress, asking for the immediate passage of the Blair Education bill.

TYPE-SETTING BY MACHINERY

An Instrument that Promises to Work a Revolution in the Art Preservative.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

There are about Congress some of the best short-hand writers in the world. Nearly all of them are speculators in a quiet way, and some of them are quite rich. Most of them are now interested in the new type-setting machine which is being perfected in Baltimore. Here is a machine which is manipulated by a key-board similar to that of the type writer. Each top of the key molds and manufactures a new type out of stereotype metal, so that one line of work represents a solid bar of metal with a raised face of the letters struck. This bar can be sliced like cheese for the correction of proofs or justifying, and can be made in in such shape that it can be locked up in a cylindrical form, so as to go upon any of the presses where stereotype plates can go. The beauty of this work is that the presswork is done each time from the face of new type. If it is practicable, the machine is so clean and simple that that the work of type setting can be done in a parlor without making any dirt or litter. When these machines are ready to go to work the intelligent compositor will be banished. His place will be taken by nimble-fingered, neatly-dressed young women. The dirt of great newspaper establishment of the future will be swept into the basement where the press work is done, while the money saved by these machines will be devoted to the embellishment and adornment of the up-stairs part of the publication office, so that the editorial rooms of the future will be all that art and luxury can devise. The editor of the future will recline upon an easy chair and softly murmur his editorial musings in the pink ear of a gentle and lovely maiden, whose fingers will set his thoughts as fast as uttered, so that as soon as he has finished a proof of them can be instantly hung up in front of him for correction. This is the glowing picture of the work of the editor of the future given me be one of the stenographers interested in the development of this machine. One of the principal stenographers of Washington has invested the savings of a lifetime in this invention.

Belief in the virtues of this type setting machine has spread to congressional circles. Sen. Pendleton and at least a dozen more of his associates have stock in the enterprise. It has been worked up among the officers in about the same way as the Bell telephone stock before it took its great sweep upward. Through the location of the patent office here and the presence of a large class of patent attorneys, nearly every one in official life has heard of some marvelous fortunes being made in the lottery of inventions.

COCAINE.

The Marvelous Properties of the South American Coca Plant.

Many South American travelers, botanists, and medical writers have described the plant to which the incas reverently gave the name "coca," signifying *the tree* or plant par excellence. Weston, in his famous Crystal palace walk, is alleged to have sustained himself by chewing the leaves, and in 1856 an American physician, Dr. Percy, of New York, experimenting upon the medical properties of the plant, discovered its power of causing local insensibility, but without pushing his discovery to any practical end. For more than a quarter of a century longer did its wonderful virtue elude the student and the searcher, and only within the past few months has nature been forced to give up her secret. An alkaloid cocaine produced from the leaf by Niemann, a German chemist, in 1860, was found by Dr. Carl Koller, of the Vienna general hospital, in 1884, to render that extremely sensitive organ, the eye, so completely insensible that its surface might be gouged, scratched, and cut without exciting any sense of pain or even causing motion. Since then it has leaped by a bound into professional favor, and an agent previously regarded rather as of mere chemical interest has been demonstrated to be of such value in eye surgery as to advance in price to the almost fabulous sum of over $200 per ounce. A value is not alone in its annulling of pain, marvelous as is such a boon to the sufferer, but by destroying sensibility, while enabling the patient to entirely control motion, operations on the eye may be performed with greater certainly of success than was possible under the use of chloroform or ether. While the field of its greatest triumphs will be in the diseases of this organ, it has already been successfully employed in painful affections of the ear, mouth, throat, and elsewhere. If it shall also be found to destroy the exquisite sensibility of the nerves of the teeth the dentist's income will be largely swelled by many of those who now regard his diabolical armamentarium with an unconquerable dread.

After Diphtheria.

Diphtheria is a terrible disease, requiring the greatest medical skill to effect a complete cure. Even when its power is broken, it clings to the patient with great persistency, and often leaves the system poisoned and prostrated. Just here Hood's Sarsaparilla does a vast amount of good, expelling impurities from the blood, and giving it richness and vitality, while it renovates and strengthens the system.

A Very Serious Game of Poker.

"I'll never forget the first time that I saw Gen. Grant," said William Ramson recently to a number of men in the Foot Guard's equipment room. "I was first sergeant in company C of the Seventh C. V., commanded by Gen. Hawley. At that time we were lying before Richmond. Day after day we had nothing to do but lie about the camp. On this never forgotten day that I refer to I was sergeant of the guard, a detail of eight men being under my charge. Some of the boys had swapped papers with the Rebs, whose picket line was not far from ours, and had given me the Richmond *Gazette*. I leaned my musket against the trunk of a tree, and sitting on the ground braced my back against the tree and read. It was not long before I became deeply interested in a story, and forgot about pickets, duty, and even such a thing as war. Suddenly I heard the tramp of a squadron of cavalry, and looking up, saw a number of horsemen approaching. I saw that my men were engaged with some Johnnies in a game of poker. The officers did not stop, but quietly rode past, not without looking at me in a peculiar manner. Soon after a single horseman rode up. He had on a slouched hat, an old blouse, and his breeches were stuck in a pair of old boots.

Riding up to me he said, 'Sergeant, what are you doing here?'

'On picket duty,' I replied.

'Where are your men?'

'Oh, over there playing poker,' I said, nodding my head in that direction.

I thought that he was a correspondent for some paper, and answered him saucily. Asking my name, regiment and company, he rode away. I flung a parting shot at him as he did so, asking if he was not inquisitive. When we were relieved, I was called to the captain's quarters, where I was informed that Gen. Grant had preferred charges against me. It was he to whom I had been impudent. When the captain told me that I was under arrest and liable to be shot, I felt like sinking into the ground. A court-martial was held, and I was sentenced to be shot at sunrise. In the few hours that I was in the guard-house I seemed to live my life over again. Through the efforts of Gen. Hawley, the sentence was not carried into effect. I was disrated, however, and for three days carried a knapsack filled with sand about the camp. When Gen. Grant visited this city I called upon him, and as I left he said "Always do your duty."—*New Haven News.*

American women are said to be the most clever, active, and energetic to be found; and well they need to be, considering the enormous demands made upon them by modern schools, housekeeping and society. Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, in preparing her celebrated Vegetable Compound, had in mind all these countless demands on a woman's strength, and her well known remedy proves every day its perfect adaptation to woman's special needs.

Recent Literature.

PRAYER AND ITS ANSWER.—Illustrated in the First Twenty-Five Years of the Fulton Street Prayer Meeting. By S. Irenæus Prime, D. D. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

Those persons who do not believe in the power of prayer, who regard it as not exactly useless but only a form of devotion expressive of reverence, and that is all, will do well to read this little volume, of which many editions have already been exhausted.

THE WAY OUT. Suggestions for Social Reform. By Charles J. Bellamy, author of "The Breton Mills." G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

This is one of the many books which have been given to the public within a few years, offering a solution to some of the social problems which are puzzling the thoughtful part of the world. His ideas tend to communism, and would change all existing conditions. It is well written and of interest to the students in the students in social science.

PRACTICAL BANKING. By Albert S. Bolles. Homan's Publishing Co., New York.

This work, the author says in his preface, has been prepared to serve double purpose; first, to teach those in banks and elsewhere how the business of banking is conducted, and second, for use as a text book for the studets whom he instructs. He has striven so make the work as practical as possible, and acknowledges his indebtedness to the leading authorities in banking in the country. The volume is well prepared, and is just what is needed in this direction. Business men will find it of great service.

A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON MASSAGE IN ITS HISTORY, Mode of Application, and Effects, etc. By Douglas Graham, M. D. William Wood & Co., New York.

Massage has come to be considered so important an agent in the treatment of the sick that a book upon the subject from so high an authority will be most welcome. This eminent physician not only gives the theory of massage but the manner of its application and instances where its effect has been almost magical. He deplores the fact that it has been thrown almost entirely into the hands of those who are ignorant of the true way to apply it and who therefore make mistakes. It is a work calculated to do much good.

THOMAS CARLYLE. A History of His Life in London. 1834-1881. By James Anthony Froude. Two volumes in one. Harper Brothers, New York.

So much has been said in regard to this work, and so many extracts have been published from its advance-sheets, that in the short space to be given to it, it would be impossible to make more known of its character. That the literary work is good goes without saying, since Mr. Froude is its doer. That the estimate which he has placed upon Carlyle will be generally accepted is not so certain. However that may be, it is certainly a work to be widely read, and destined to arouse more than a passing interest. Those who care for Carlyle may wish that some things had not been published that are to be found in these pages, but Mr. Froude has done what seemed to him best.

NATURE'S SERIAL STORY. By Edward P. Roe. Harper & Brothers, New York. Price, $5.

In this sumptuous volume, author, artist and publisher have united their efforts to make one of the most enjoyable and elegant books, both in a literary and artistic sense, that have come from the press during this holiday season. The story is by the well known and popular author, Mr. E. P. Roe, and was printed as a serial in *Harper's* magazine during the past year, where it was very generally advanced and enjoyed by the readers of that periodical. Its present form is that of a nearly square octavo of 430 pages. The illustrations, which are mainly those that accompanied the publication in *Harper's*, and which were designed by F. Dieiman and W. Hamilton Gibson, and executed in the highest style of art, have been increased in the present publication by the addition of a large number of sketches by Mr. Gibson.

MISS JANET'S OLD HOUSE. By Annette Lucello Noe, author of How Billy Went Upon the World. National Temperance Society and Publication House, New York.

This is a very pretty story of how one young girl in trying to live up to the precepts she had been taught to make those around her happy aroused one who had been leading a selfish, introverted life into the delights of doing good. The simple narrative will do good.

SCIENCE IN SONG, OR NATURE IN NUMBERS. By William C. Richards, A. M. Ph. D. Lee & Shepard, Boston. Charles Dillingham, New York.

This is a collection of poems in which the author has, as he says, attempted to intertwine the marvels of science with the measures of song. It was a perilous undertaking, as the relation of the philosophy of poetry to nature is not yet well enough understood to make such efforts appreciated, but in this case, the author has succeeded in uniting the two without spoiling the spirit of either

BREAD-MAKING. By "Y. N. Y." G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

This little book belongs to the Handy Book Series of Things Worth Knowing, and when it is considered what an important part bread bears in the diet of this whole nation, anything that will help to make it better is most welcome. Especially will this little volume be welcome to young housekeepers, who will find here directions for the whole process, from beginning to end, given in a clear, concise manner, and yet in a way to be understood.

REPRESENTATIVE BRITISH ORATIONS. With Introductions and Explanatory Notes. By Charles Kendall Adams. In a set of three volumes. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

These three pretty little volumes have been prepared to show the great currents of political thought that have shaped British history for the past 250 years, by bringing together the most famous oratorical utterances that has tended to change the course of the stream of British history. The first volume contains selection from Eliot and Pym, who formulated the protests against absolutism that led to the foundations of English constitutional liberty; Chatham, Mansfield, and Burke, who were potent in the events that led to American independence. The second volume is devoted to Pitt, the exponent of constant opposition to Napoleon; Fox, favoring negotiations for peace, and Mackintosh and Erskine, the defenders of the freedom of juries and of the press. The third volume is devoted to Canning, who shaped England's foreign policy in the years succeeding Napoleon's overthrow; Macaulay, on the reform bill of 1832; Cobden and Bright, Beconsfield and Gladstone. These volumes should be in every library.

THE BUNTLING BALL. A Graeco-American Play. Being a Poetical Satire of New York Society. Square 8vo, cloth, 154 pp. red-lined. Illustrations by C. D. Weldon. Funk & Wagnalls, 10 and 12 Dey street, New York.

A bright and clever poem, cast in dramatic form, and one of the cleverest satires upon New York society that has ever been written. The author chooses to keep his identity a secret, the discovery of which promises to be one of the literary sensations of the hour. Everybody is guessing, and the choice ranges through Edgar Fawcett, R. H. Stoddard, Henry Guy Carleton, W. A. Croffut, H. C. Brunner, Brander Matthews, and a half-dozen other satirists and poets, but no solution is yet offered by the publishers.

BOYS COASTWISE; or, All Along the Shore. By Wm. H. Rideing. Square 8vo., 365 pp., Illuminated boards, $1.75. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

This is another of Mr. Rideing's entertaining and instructive stories, combining the literature of travel with that of geography. It is cast in narrative form and has all the personal interest to be derived from the adventures of a couple of lively American lads along the wharves of New York, and a trip along the coasts of New York bay, giving a vast fund of information, in a most entertaining way, of ocean pilots and their lives, the life-saving service, wreckers on the coast, the operations of divers on a sunken wreck, and allied topics. It is profusely and excellently illustrated.

THE CRUISE OF THE ALICE MAY in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Adjacent Waters. By S. G. W. Benjamin. Square 8vo, 136 pp, with numerous illustrations. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

This log of the tour of a party of pleasure-seekers from Charlottetown, N. B., around the Gulf of St. Lawrence and among the islands was first published in the *Century*, and is now presented in the form of a most attractive book with the original illustrations largely augmented in number. It is interesting to readers of all ages as the chronicle of a schooner trip in waters and amid scenes comparatively unknown to the people of the United States.

THE LOST CITY; Or, the Boy Explorers in Central Asia. By David Ker. Cloth, Illustrated, 173 pp. Harper & Brothers, New York.

The story of two youths who discover, in the depths of the Asian steppes, the "Lost City of the Greek Sultans." The author is thoroughly familiar with the scenery and life of that little known portion of the world, and this bright little volume, while very interesting as a story, contains a large fund of useful and entertaining information as well.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES. VOL. V. By George Bancroft. Author's last revision. Cloth, 580 pp. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

This is the fifth volume of a new edition of Bancroft's great work, with the author's latest revision, and covers the period of our national history from July, 1778, to the end of November, 1782. It is superfluous to speak of the merits of this great work. The mechanical execution is excellent, as is all of the Appletons' work.

WIDE AWAKE.

The New Year number is full of holiday stories, poems and illustrations. A charming poem by Margaret Sidney accompanies the frontispiece, drawn by Lungren. "Snowy Peter," by Susan Coolidge follows, then "Light on the Hills," by Edward Abbott. "Wagon Fire Camp," by Kate Hook, is illustrated by Mary Holbrook Foote; David Ker has "A School in the Faro Islands." The serials are continued pleasantly. The poems and illustrations are good. The Chautauqua Readings cover a wide range of literature, history, science and art. Only $3.00 a year. D. Lothrop & Co., publishers, Boston, Mass.

"PATIENCE PRIMROSE'S" TALKS.

A Chat With the Boys About Boasting of Themselves.

Boys, just as early as convenient, stop bragging. Of course it is very nice to know distinguished people, to be invited to all the parties, to have a gold watch, a pony, to receive admiration from the girls, etc.; but don't keep telling of it all the time, for it cannot possibly interest others as much as it does yourself. However much your friends may love you, they will tire of the glowing accounts of what you did, the number of compliments you received, and the many pleasures you have. Others can not enjoy our pleasures as much as we do ourselves, and we should early try to remember that we can make ourselves more disagreeable by continually telling what we did than in almost any other way. Besides, into others' lives come the same delights, and occasions when they are appreciated.

Unless you are so completely taken up with yourself, that you do not see the lives of those about you, you may perceive that the majority are as bright, handsome and much in demand as yourself, and that will perhaps prevent you from parading your own affairs to the disgust of others.

I have known many boys who would otherwise be charming companions, almost spoil all the pleasure of their society by their incessant boasting; and been told by the schoolmaster of others that, with that exception, they were delightful.

The day will surely come when you will blush as you think of how you strove to get that about yourself into the conversation, feeling it to have been so evident that you were small enough to be flattered by what they would have taken as a matter of course, and when you grow older you will be catching yourself at this trick unless you try to break yourself of it now, then how embarrassed you will be some day, as I was, to find that you have been boasting of diffident things to some distinguished person perhaps, whose life has been full of honors—but who has never recited them to you—when you learn of facts regarding the person which cause you to blush for shame over your egotism.

When we can be made to feel that the smallest minds are the most readily flattered by trivial things, and that the circumstances of our lives are not so very unlike those of multitudes of others, we will grow more reticent regarding our conquests. Good bye, boys, and tell the girls this is meant for them, too.

PATIENCE PRIMROSE.

MEXICAN STREET NAMES.

They Should Change Them or Change their Morals.

The first odd thing that strikes a visitor to Mexico is that every block has a different name. They do not take the streets entire, but each block is numbered and named by itself; and it is often the case that there are several blocks of the same name in different parts of the city, when the practice is to call them San Francisco No. 1, San Francisco No. 2, and so on. This bewilders the stranger more than one can imagine. I had a friend who lives at No. 12 San Francisco street. I went to four streets or blocks of that name before I found him at San Francisco Puente (bridge).

The names of the streets here strike one with a sort of awe, too, for they were christened in the days of religious fanaticism. Think of living on Jesus street! Imagine yourself telling a hackman to drive to No. 4 Blood of Christ street! Or ordering a baggageman to take your trunk to No. 6 Holy Ghost street! It does not sound so much like blasphemy to speak these names, or hear them spoken in Spanish; but even then, to be told that one lives over a saloon on the street of the Love of God (Calle Amor de Dis) makes a reverent soul shudder a little. Here are some of the other peculiar names:

Crown of Thorns street.
Fifth of May street (the Mexican Fourth of July.)
Body of Christ street (Calle de Corpus Christi).
Mother of Sorrows street.
Street of the Sacred Heart.
The Heart of Jesus street.
Jesus street (Calle de Jesus).
John the Baptist street.
Street of Illustrious Men.
Street of Refuge.
All Souls' street.

There are others quite as striking, for all the saints have blocks christened in their honor, and no event of religious history is without some allusion in the nomenclature of the municipal geography. *Mexican Letter Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

A REMINISCENCE.

How Near We Were to Revolution After November, 1876.

There is a marked difference in the way the electoral returns which have been delivered to the president pro tem. of the Senate are held preparatory to the final declaration of the two houses of Congress, and the care that was taken of them in 1876-77. Now they are placed in the safe with no extraordinary precautions, for there is no necessity for them. The returns of 1876, as they were delivered to Acting Vice-President Ferry, were put under extra locks and guards day and night. During the period of suspense, down to the action of the Electoral commission, the greatest vigilance was observed. Threats from different quarters, as well as the excited state of the country, led to extraordinary precautions. One hundred extra policemen were sworn in and placed on guard night and day. The number was occasionally increased. This was done once in consequence of reports or plans maturing in Baltimore to make a descent on the capitol to seize the returns. They were in a safe in a room at the Senate end of the capitol. At all hours that room was closely guarded. Unknown to any one but the sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, at nights a man locked himself in that room, and remained without a light and in silence till morning. One night he carelessly drew a match to light a cigar. Though it was for an instant only, the light was seen and the alarm raised that all was not right in that room. The door was shaken and a call made, but the man inside remained silent. Preparations were made to force the door, and the sergeant-at-arms was sent for. After hearing the report of the officers of the night, he found a way to delay forcing operations till morning, when the guard was relieved, and the man inside came forth to confess his carelessness and receive a proper reprimand. The sudden light was a mystery to the guard as long as they were on duty. These extraordinary precautions were kept up without ceasing until the suspense was at last ended by the decision of the electoral commission. It is not generally understood or appreciated how near the country was at that time to the verge of revolution. If Tilden had only been a little less timid!

Guarding Against Diptheria.

1. If one is subject to catarrh, or inflamatory affections of the throat, especial care should be paid to the condition of the general health, and to the general hygienic surroundings. There is reason to believe that diphtheria originates spontaneously in such persons when the system is debilitated from any cause.

2. During the existence of diphtheria avoid crowded gatherings in badly ventilated rooms, as in theatres, public halls, and even churches. This is of special importance during cold weather.

3. Secure thorough ventilation and perfect cleanliness of nurseries, kindergartens, school rooms and other places where children are cared for. Persons should make it their personal business to secure these in the home and nursery, and to see that those in charge of schools, etc., are also mindful of these important matters. Children are more subject to diphtheria than adults, and the disease is more fatal with them; hence the necessity for these precautions on their behalf.

The Camp Fire.

The Farmington Fight.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

In regard to the Farmington affair, I wish to say that I was there, and, according to my recollection, it was as follows: Payne's division was encamped on the north side of a swamp, Farmington being on the south side, and about one mile from said swamp. On May 8, 1862, the division advanced and drove the rebels back through Farmington, and on to the works at Corinth, and then returned to their camp north of the swamp. On the 9th, Palmer's brigade, the 22d, 27th, 42d and 51st Illinois, with a battery of artillery, moved over to establish their camp at Farmington, and were met by the combined forces of Price and Van Dorn, when our boys piled their knapsacks and went for the rebels. But the rebels were too many for us and they had to get back and leave the rebels in possession of their knapsacks. Morgan's brigade started to reinforce Palmer, but met him in the swamp, retreating. He (Palmer) then formed this brigade in the rear of Morgan, when the whole division advanced and drove the rebels from the field, and established our camp at Farmington. The following regiments were all that were engaged: 10th, 16th, 22d, 27th, 42d, 51st Illinois, 10th and 14th Michigan, Hotten's battery (Co., 1st Ill.) and one other (of which I have forgotten the number).—W. W. ANGELO, Co. B, 16th Illinois.
Hillsdale, Kan.

Another 4th Tennessee Boy.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

Seeing letters from old Tennesseans I thought I would write one too. L. L. Goodwin describes his new home in Hamilton county, Tenn. I was raised in that county, and came here in 1871; and if L. L. G. could see this country he would say no more about that old, worn out county in Tennessee. We pay men something for their labor here. Mechanics get from $1.50 to $2.50 per day: hands on a farm from $15 to $20 per month, and every child a man has got over 6 years old, can make from 50 cents to $1.50 a day, four months in the year, raising cotton and gathering it. I went from Harrison, Hamilton county, Tenn., in 1863, to Nashville, all the way after night, to keep out of the rebel army; so you see I can tell you some things about night travelling. As comrades Allen and Griffith have told us something about the McCook raid, I will tell something of us coming in contact with Hood, at Florence, Ala., and taking up the guard of the Federal army to Nashville, via Franklin, Tenn. In time of the hard fighting we captured part of Hood's wagon train and some of his ambulances, and built bluff fires; then got out off the next morning, and fought till we got in sight of Fort Negley, and then went on a forced march to a ford on the Cumberland river seven miles above Gallatin, Tenn. We overcoat was frozen so hard I stood it up like a man till we could make a fire. In two days we were ordered back to Nashville, and on after Hood. We caught up with him at Pulaski, on New Year's day. There we took the advance guard, and ran Hood's rear guard through a covered bridge that they were firing. I was ordered to climb on top of the bridge and pull off the shingles that were burning. About one hour after that we were covered off the road about one-fourth of a mile and then the Johnnies captured our battery on the road and fired some shots with it at us. Then we had to charge on them and take it back. So next day we ran on them again just after crossing a creek. Then on to the Tennessee river, and then to Mobile. D. M. JACK,
Co. D, 4th Tennessee Cavalry.

As to Land Warrants.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

I see an invitation in the BLADE from Comrade A. B. Warren to "reason on the subject of land warrants." Now, while I believe that every soldier and marine of the late war is honestly entitled to 160 acres of land, I do not think it will pay us to make much ado about it, for, in my opinion, not one in ten would become actual settlers, and so it would amount to nothing to the holder of the warrant unless he could sell it, and your warrant would not bring as much in market by half as the government land now sells for acre. No, comrades, if there is to be any united action of the ex-soldiers looking to legislation in their behalf, let it be for something that will benefit the most needy. There are now thousands of men in this country who went to the war in the full vigor of manhood and served faithfully till discharged, who are now feeling age and disease creeping on them, and we all know that it was hastened by their faithful service in the army; and it is a notorious fact that the man who did his duty all the time, sick or well, can scarcely get a pension at all since the war, simply because he has no hospital record to help him. Another thing I have noticed in the pension business is, that the government now required each claimant to prove conclusively that he was a sound man when he was mustered in the army. Now this is an injustice to the claimant, for at this late day it is very hard to prove soundness in a man at that time; and it is an insult to the great corps of army surgeons who were sworn to do their duty, and no doubt did do it. A soldier's record in the army, especially one who has no hospital record, should be taken as conclusive proof that he was sound at the time he enlisted. I do not know why it is, but it seems that the government looks upon applicants as swindlers, but there is many still entitled to pensions that have not been able to get them for want of evidence of soundness. I will not nor can not propose any remedy for all this, except for us to work through our Cong

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, they will not be published.

2. No attention will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.

3. Communications for this department MUST be written on a separate sheet, directed to the "Question Bureau," and contain not more than three questions. Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If we can answer it, and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer in the next issue. The question bureau is always full, and we are usually two or three weeks behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle petty disputes or decide bets. Replies to questions are intended to be of general interest, and no one has the right to demand a reply. As all matter for this department passes through the hands of one man, he is the best judge of what shall and what shall not be answered. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the SLIGHTEST attention unless the first and third rules above are STRICTLY complied with.

J. M. S., Globe, Kan.:
Please favor me with the address of some agricultural journals in Texas.
Stock Journal and Farmer, at Pleasanton.

Reader, Arkansas City, Kan.:
Is the paper money, such as was used in the Southern states before the war, of any value now?
No.

T. F. B., Conway, Kan.:
It is claimed by Democrats here that no matter if blaine had received St. John's strength, that Cleveland would have defeated him. Is it true?
No.

A. T. H., Huntington, Pa.:
Please state who her the Panama Canal company has any employment officers in the United States? If so please give the address of them.
We bel eve there is an agent in Boston. Do not know his name.

L. D. R., Pierce, Pa.: The BLADE will not answer questions regarding the liability of firms, under any circumstances. An unfavorable report would be no grounds for a libel suit; a favorable report would be giving valuable advertising for nothing. Read the rules. The vote for President has been published in the BLADE and you can over for yourself how near you came to guessing what the vote would be.

I. The Chinese have used almanacs from time immemorial. The earliest manuscript almanacs date from 1153. In France, the note l astrologer Nostradamus began the publication a almanac which became famous, in 1550. The first book printed in the colonies was an almanac published at Cambridge, in 1639, "calculated for New England, by Mr. William Pierce, Mariner." It was printed by Stephen Daye, and no copy of it has been preserved. 2. At Moscow. It weighs 443,772 pounds; is 19 feet 3 inches high, and measures around its base 68 feet 10 inches. The value of the metal is estimated to amount to over $320,000.

C. W., Hickey Grove, Ga.:
1. What has become of Brick Pomeroy? 2. What is the nature of coupons? 3. Are there futures on grain similar to those on cotton? If so, explain how they are bought and sold.
1. He was in New York the last we heard from him. 2. They are printed at the bottom of bonds, in convenient shape to be cut off and presented for the payment of interest. 3. Yes. A party wishes to speculate up in making contracts or sales, the grain to be delivered at a certain time at a certain price. When the time arrives, the difference between the selling price and the current price must be made good or the grain delivered.

D. K., Cairo, W. Va.:
1. How could Nevada, with a population of only 62,000 in 1881, be entitled to admission into the Union, and in that time to have a number it required 127,000 population to each representative? 2. Is the population of a territory taken into consideration at the time of its admission in the number of representatives it sends to Congress? 3. Are Washington territory?
1. It was a "war measure." 2. Not always. There is a popular fiction that a territory must have attained population to entitle it to a representative, but the question of admission rests with Congress. 3. Yes.

E. H., Northfield, Minn.:
1. Is Greenwich the point of securing latitude and longitude for the world? 2. Does the Queen live in Greenwich? 3. Is the Suez Canal built, and who furnished the capital?
1. The International Prime Meridian conference, held in Washington in October, adopted a resolution making the standard meridian that passing through the center of the transit instrument at Greenwich. 2. No. 3. It was opened for business in November, 1869. The canal company was organized by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, and the first shovelful was taken up in 1859. In 1875 all the shares belonging to the Khedive of Egypt, 177 out of 400, were purchased by the British government for £4,000,000. (Other questions have been answered.)

E. C. W., Collins, Ia.:
Will you please give a short explanation of the civil service law, as I do not understand it?
The law institutes a system of examinations before appointments can be made to certain positions. It is the law that before a person can get a position in a postoffice or in one of the departments at Washington, he or she must pass an examination, something after the manner of school teachers. But this will not apply to persons appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. There are three civil service commissioners, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, who adopt the rules by which persons shall be appointed. The President are supposed to be binding on all concerned. They receive a salary of $3,000 each; the chief examiner receives $2,000, and the secretary $1,600. The commissioners are: Dorman B. Eaton, New York; L. P. Thoman, Ohio; J. M. Gregory, Illinois; chief examiner, Charles Lyman, Connecticut; secretary, W. S. Roullac, North Carolina.

Sub., Nassau, Ia.:
What islands in the South Sea and describe it geographically. 2. Give the present names of the South Sea islands. 3. Give as much history of the South Sea islanders as space will permit.
1. The South Sea (or Pacific ocean) is bounded on the east by the American continent, north by the same and by the chain of Aleutian islands and peninsulas lying off the coast of Asia, the Malay archipelago, and west by the chain of continental islands and peninsulas lying off the east of Asia, the Malay archipelago, and west by the chain of continental islands and peninsulas lying off the east of Asia, the Malay archipelago, and south by Australia and Tasmania. 2. There are a great number of islands, and many of them have been described in these columns recently. All the oceanic islands of the world are either volcanic or of coral formation. The inhabitants of the Pacific islands belong to two distinct races—the Malaysian and the Polynesian. They have carried with them almost everywhere they have gone the Malay tongue, and in many of the groups of islands the natives have generally embraced Christianity. The white race is rapidly encroaching and displacing the natives. The first European discoverer of the ocean was Vasco Nunez de Balboa, who, on September 26, 1513, saw it to the southward of himself from one of the mountains near the isthmus of Darien. Magalhaens gave it the name of Pacific. An account of the voyage of another which accompanied him during his voyage in 1520-21. The title of South Sea is now nearly obsolete.

M. T., Perrysville, O.:
1. When was the two-third rule adopted by the Democratic National Convention, and for what purpose? 2. Where can the speech of Daniel Webster in answer to Hayne be procured?
1. There was no open opposition in the Democratic party to the nomination of Gen. Jackson for a second term; but there was dissatisfaction with Calhoun, so a convention was called to meet at Baltimore in May, 1832, to nominate a candidate for the second office. Twenty-three states were represented by 325 delegates. Gen. Robert Lucky, of Ohio, presided, and the regular proceedings were commenced by the passage of the following resolution: "That each state be entitled, in the nomination to be made for the Vice Presidency, to a number of votes equal to the number to which they will be entitled in the electoral colleges, under the present Constitution; and that two-thirds of the whole number of votes in the convention shall be necessary to constitute a choice." This was the origin of the famous two-thirds rule. Martin Van Buren was nominated for Vice President on the first ballot, receiving 189 votes; Richard M. Johnson received 26, and Philip P. Barbour 6. Jackson was then nominated for President by acclamation, receiving 219 votes; Henry Clay, 49; John Floyd, 11; and William Wirt, 7. 2. The debate can be found in "American Politics," and other works, and can be ordered through Brown, Eager & Co., Toledo, O.

C. P. S., LaMoure, Dak.:
1. How are iron castings made malleable? 2. Please give the life of Philip Gilbert Hamerton. 3. Is it probable that Daniel Webster died as a state during the coming administration?
1. The refinery consists of a flat hearth, covered with sand or loam, and surrounded with metal troughs, through which a stream of water is constantly flowing, to keep the sides from melting. The cast iron is melted with coke on the hearth, and a blast of air kept blowing over it, which causes its carbon to unite with the oxygen of the air and pass off as carbonic oxide gas. Oxygen also unites with silicon to form silica, and with iron to form the oxide. The silica of the sand uniting with oxide of iron, produces a slag of silicate of iron. The refined metal is finally run out through a bed of cast iron, kept cool by a stream of water. Being only partially decarbonized by this process, it is next thrown up for the puddling furnace, about 1 per cent. of iron being lost in refining. In the puddling furnace, the grate is separated from the hearth by means of a bridge, which prevents the direct contact of the fuel with the iron. The refined iron is placed on the hearth, and the latter raised till it is melted; the metal is then thoroughly stirred with an iron rod, so as to expose fresh surfaces to the oxygen of the air which is flowing over its surface. In this way the carbon and other impurities are burned off, and the fusibility of the iron is diminished, and ultimately it becomes a spongy, granular mass. The whole charge of the furnace is now divided and formed into balls weighing about 180 pounds each, which are then raised to a welding heat, and taken singly to be "shingled," which consists in hammering the puddled balls with either the belve or steam hammer, or in passing it through a pair of "squeezer" till they are sufficiently consolidated, and the greater part of the cinders forced out. Puddled balls which have undergone shingling are called slabs or blooms. These are next passed through heavy rollers and reduced to the form of a flat bar. For all the better kinds of iron, the bars thus treated are cut into short lengths, piled together, heated in a furnace, and again passed through the forge rolls. Once more the iron is cut, piled and heated, and then passed through the mill train, consisting of what are termed the bolting, or rough rolls, by which it is brought into bars of the form in which these sets of rolls in the case of plates and sheets are plain, but in the case of bars are grooved, so as to form them into the required shape, such as flat, square, etc. 2. He was born in Manchester, September 10, 1834. His father died when he was two weeks old, and his father when he was ten years old. His aunt put him to school and fitted him for Oxford. He published anonymously many articles in periodicals, studied the art of landscape painting, and was for three years the art critic of the *Saturday Review*. He also invented a new method of etching. A list of his works have been republished in the United States. His wife has also published books. He married in 1859 a daughter of Mr. Andriez, and after living for a while in France, some of his best pictures were painted in Autun. 3. No; he is a politics.

G. W. H., Gibbon, Neb.: Writs to Brown, Eager & Co., Toledo, O., for such books as you want.

Sub., Trough Creek, Pa.:
1. When and by whom was the first almanac printed? 2. Where is the largest bell in the world?

F. A. Crookston, Minn.:
What persons have written the biography of James A. Garfield, and where can they be obtained? Also, have his speeches been published in book form?
His life and speeches are in press, we think. Watch the advertisements in the BLADE.

J. H. B., Hunter, Ill.:
What is the chief magistrate of Switzerland called, and who is the present incumbent?
The President and Vice President of the Federal Council, elected for one year by the Federal Assembly, are the first magistrates of the republic. The President for 1884 was Dr. Emil Welti. Do not know who is President now.

J. B. S., Marion, N. Y.:
I see in the BLADE an advertisement of the ——, offering to loan money at 4 per cent. to subscribers. Is that a reliable concern? Would it be a safe transaction for me or any one else? Please take another glance at the rules at the head of this department. The BLADE *will not* answer such questions, for reasons repeatedly given.

Sub., Newton, Kan.:
1. How long can a piece of property be devised back? 2. Is there a bonus of correction in Detroit for United States criminals? 3. Is the state penitentiary in Detroit? 4. If A loses a note and B finds it and gets it cashed, is not B liable to the penitentiary?
1. For life, or until the birth of another child. 2. Yes. 3. No. The state prison is at Jackson, the state reform school at Lansing. The Detroit house of correction is a city institution, but it receives also females who would fill the state prison and criminals convicted of misdemeanors from all parts of the state, for whose board payment is made by the state or counties. 4. Yes.

G. W. S., Holly, Mich., sends the BLADE an account of the origin of the phrase "painting the town red." It has been floating through the newspapers for some time, and is, in brief, the story of the advance agent of a minstrel show who had his bills printed in red ink, etc. Another version comes from the South, that the phrase originated in the days of steamboat racing on the Mississippi river. When the men on a boat feared that their rival would pass them, the word was passed to the fireman to "paint her red," meaning to throw in everything that would make steam, and be in a hurry about it.

Sallie, Elmira, Mo.:
Please answer through the BLADE why are we Republicans?
Because the Republican party is for protection to American industry, while the Democratic party is for free trade. Because the Republican party believes that the men and the descendants of men who saved the nation should govern it, while the Democratic party makes no distinction between loyalty and disloyalty. There are other reasons, but these are sufficient.

Sub., Franklin, Neb.:
What is the opinion of scientific men in regard to the planet governing the weather and having anything to do with the growth of vegetation?
The influence of the moon in causing tides is generally conceded, and many claim that she produces a similar effect on the atmosphere, combining with other causes the generation of winds. If this is true, then the moon undoubtedly has an influence on the growth of vegetation. There are many scientific men and superstitions regarding the moon, however, which the opinions of all the scientific men in the world cannot overthrow.

E. M., Leavenworth, Ind.:
Please publish a recipe for mending gum or rubber boots or shoes.
The BLADE has given several recipes for this purpose. Here is another: Cut one pound of caoutchouc into thin, small slices, place in a metallic vessel under a moderate coal fire, until the caoutchouc becomes fluid; then add one-half pound of powdered resin, and melt both materials at a moderate heat. When these materials are perfectly melted, then gradually add four pounds spirits of turpentine in small portions, and stir well. By the addition of the last solution, the rapid thickening and hardening of the compound will be prevented, and a mixture obtained fully answering the purpose of glueing together rubber surfaces etc.

M. C. L., Fort Monmouth, N. J.:
At the last November election in our voting precinct there was one more ballot than votes polled, consequently thrown out. That ballot was mine. I knew it was through the fact that it had not been numbered, as there was not another like it in the box a split ticket, and I told the election board of it. They looked at it and found the ballot as I told them, but they said they could not count it. Now, I wish to know, can I be thus disfranchised under the laws and constitution of this nation because some one else voted fraudulently?
We have not familiarity with the election laws of your state, and do not know whether you have any remedy. The election board probably followed the law, and if you were disfranchised it was not their fault. Such questions cannot be decided in the newspapers.

E. E. E., Scranton, Pa.:
Have the owners of a vessel built in the United States, registered in the United States, and flying the United States flag, the right of shipping a crew in a foreign port, or is it compulsory, according to the United States shipping laws, to ship the whole of the crew in a United States port, or is there any limit?
Previous to the passage of the Dingley shipping bill by Congress in June, 1884, ship owners were required to pay two months' extra wages to all seamen discharged in foreign ports. This resulted, practically, in the employment of aliens by American vessel-owners. The Dingley bill provides for the employment of seamen on a voyage to any port, or for a definite time, and exempts vessels from making regular and stated trips from paying fees on reshipping seamen; it also provides that seamen so shipped shall not be required to be reshipped; it abolishes the three months' extra wages, and provides that one month's extra wages only shall be paid in case of injury in service of the vessel, and allows an American vessel on a foreign voyage and till the return home to fill vacancies in the positions of officers below the rank of captain by the appointment of aliens.

T. J. C., New Haven, Ct.:
Are there any works either in book or pamphlet form on the subject of Nihilism? If so, where can I get them? If not, how can I get a thorough knowledge of the subject as far as known?
We do not know of any books on the subject, but there are doubtless some in existence. Try your leading bookstores. The nucleus of revolutionist Nihilism was formed by the change in the academical standard in the high schools. Thousands of students were left homeless and breadless by the change. Every student had his friends, some very influential ones. Nihilism, then, instead of being confined to the lower classes or those who are discontented under any circumstances, found adherents in every quarter, even among the Czar's household. Nihilism, as understood now, means the overthrow of the government unless certain demands are granted, including suffrage to a large extent, and an elective parliament or congress. To those who have studied the growth of Nihilism, it looks like a bloody revolution is in store for Russia. It is not believed that the Czar will ever grant the demands of his rebellious subjects, and time will bring forth some leader of the Nihilists who will make short and bloody work of the imperial family and all who stand by it. For a time, then, Russia will be in the condition of France under the rule of the Commune, but leaders will again be found to establish a republic or a constitutional monarchy.

K. S., Lewisburg, O.:
1. What kind of metal is this you find enclosed? 2. Please give the rule for finding the day of the week when the day of the month and year are given.
1. Iron pyrites, or sulphide of iron—a compound of sulphur and iron, of no value. To test it, powder it and pour it on a red-hot shovel. The sulphur will burn out and leave the reddish color of iron ore. 2. The BLADE published a "perpetual calendar" last year. The following will answer instead of the perpetual calendar. Once every 28 years, the dates of the year fall on the same day of the month. This period of 28 years is called a solar cycle. To connect the days of the week with the days of the year, the first seven letters of the alphabet are used to mark the several days of the week, and in such a way, for every year, that the letter A shall always stand for the first day of January. B for the second, and so on, the seven letters being constantly repeated in order. For the seven days, through all the days of the year; consequently, all the days which have the same letter fall on the same day of the week. The letter which answers to the day Sunday of the year will answer to all the Sundays of that year; hence it is called the "Dominical" letter (*dominicus dies*, "Lord's day"), simply meaning Sunday letter. When we know the day of the week on which the first day of the year comes, we have only to name, in order, the first seven letters of the alphabet, applying one to each day, and the letter corresponding with Sunday will be the Dominical letter for that year. For instance, the first day of January 1, 1869, Friday, or Saturday, B; Sunday, C. C, therefore, is the Dominical letter for 1869. A common year contains 52 weeks and one day. If a common year begin on Monday, the year following it would begin with Tuesday; and Sunday, the sixth day, would make F the sixth letter, the Dominical letter. Now, if all the years were common ones, that is, if there were only 365 days, the Dominical letters, taken in retrograde order, would successively stand for Sunday once every seven years; but leap years contain 52 weeks and two days. Now, to get the same letters to fall on the same days of the week after leap year that they would have represented had no additional day occurred, the whole series of letters must be shifted forward one day; therefore every leap year has two Dominical letters, one for January and February, and the other, which is always the next in the retrograde order of letters, for the remainder of the year from the 28th of February. *Rule*—To find the Dominical letter for any year. Add one-fourth of the given year, less one, to itself (making no account of any remainder in the one-fourth), and divide the amount by seven. Then subtract the remainder from seven, and the number left will be the number of the letter which is the Dominical letter for that year. *Note*—In leap years, the letter thus found stands for the remainder of the year after February 28, and the letter in order stands for January and February. Every year which may be divided by four, without a remainder, is a leap year, except three of each four centennial years, as 1700, 1800, 1900, etc. Centennial years are common ones unless they are divisible by 400, without a remainder. The day of the week corresponding to any day of the month may easily be found by the following couplet:

"At Dover Dwells George Brown, Esquire,
Good Caries Finch And David Frye."

In the couplet are twelve words corresponding to the twelve months of the year. The first letter of the several words, in their order, marks the letter which stands for the first day of each month, whence any other day can easily be found. *Example*.—To find on which day of the week September 9, 1859, occurred, we take Finch, the word corresponding to that month; and having ascertained that the Dominical letter for that year is F, we perceive at once that the first day was Sunday, consequently the ninth day must have been Monday. Thus may be found on what day of the week any day of the month for any year will occur.

Reader, Sterling, Neb.:
Please give the present address of Prof. C. S. Fowler.
We can not give addresses in this column.

D. C. Z., Olathe, Kan.: Your question is one for the commissioner of pensions to decide. The same answer applies to O. B. S., Cedar Springs, Mich.

I. W. R., New Geneva, Pa.:
1. Is Gen. L. C. Baker living? 2. How many of Lincoln's cabinet are living?
1. Think he is. 2. Simon Cameron and James Speed.

P. D., Cecil, O.:
Is there any difference between an absolute monarchy and a despotism?
No.

B. B., Cameron, Mo.:
What dictionary is now considered the standard?
In the United States, Webster.

O. B. S., Cedar Springs, Mich.:
1. What general captured Crown Point from the British in 1775? 2. Was there a captain in the revolutionary war by the name of Charles Warrington?
1. It was taken by a detachment under Seth Warner, forming part of the force with which Ethan Allen surprised Fort Ticonderoga. 2. Cannot find his name in the Army Register.

E. L. I., Gray Eagle:
Please inform me where I can obtain the *Congressional Record*, and its price.
You can obtain it by writing to the public printer, Washington, D. C. The price is $8 for a long and $4 for a short session of Congress. The present session is a short session. Single copies, five and 10 cents—the latter where the *Record* contains over 24 pages.

Reader, Hanover, Kan.:
1. Did Louis Kossuth, while in this country, make any speech against the Catholic church or any other church? 2. Is he living now? 3. How is the health of monarchs ascertained, aside from the use of the barometer? 4. What is Robert G. Ingersoll's religious belief?
1. Never heard that he did. 2. He is living in Turin. 3. That is the only mode employed now. 4. He does not appear to have any. He simply makes war on the belief of others.

J. W. E., Severance, Kan.:
1. Does smoke fall to the ground at times because the air is heavy or light? 2. Please give the number of voters in each rebel state and the number of actual votes cast in the late election.
1. Smoke falls because the air is less dense and cannot hang up the smoke so readily as dry and heavy air. 2. This information has been given several times in different departments of the paper, since the Presidential election.

Sub., Walton, Or.:
Is it a fact that our government allowed our soldiers to die in Andersonville and Libby prisons, rather refused to exchange prisoners when the Confederate government wished to do so?
It is not true. As the BLADE has explained several times, the rebels refused to exchange colored soldiers. The government had enlisted these men and promised them the same treatment as white soldiers. It would have been an act of cowardice to have abandoned them at the demand of the lords of the South.

J. W. B., Geneva, Ind.:
1. Can a state be re-districted for congressional purposes oftener than once in ten years? 2. Is there a final limit to the number of representatives in Congress? 3. What are the principal duties of the Ways and Means committee in Congress?
1. They redistrict in this state every two or three years. 2. No, but Congress can fix a limit. 3. To consider all reports of the treasury department, and submit their propositions relative to raising revenue and providing ways and means for the support of the government as shall be presented and be referred to them by the House, or to report their opinion thereon by bill or otherwise.

B. T., Hillsboro, Ill.:
Did the United States government offer to pay the slaveholders anything for their slaves during the rebellion?
Congress appropriated $1,000,000 to pay loyal slaveholders of the District of Columbia for the loss of their slaves, not more than $300 to be paid for any one slave liberated. The following resolution passed both houses of Congress and was approved by Pres. Lincoln: "That the United States, in order to cooperate with any state which may adopt gradual abolition of slavery, will give to such state pecuniary aid, to be used by such state, in its discretion, to compensate it for the inconvenience, public and private, produced by such change. All rebels. Not a single slave state ever claimed the benefits of the resolution.

Delayed Subscriptions.

[NOTE—Subscribers wishing a change in the postoffice address must, in all cases, give their FORMER as well as their PRESENT address.]

It sometimes happens that persons order the BLADE mailed to them and fail to receive after a reasonable time has elapsed. Why this is will readily be seen from the following list of persons sending money for the BLADE and failing either to sign their names or give their address:

Letter containing $1, dated at Sonora, no County or State, signed Thos. Ainsley.

Letter containing 50c., postmarked at Roanoke, Ind., no name or order.

Letter containing $1, no date, orders specimen copies for Thos. Jones, D. H. Burnett and others.

Letter containing $1, no address, signed H. E. Burt.

Letter containing money order No. 1,565 for $1.10, postmarked Scio, Oregon, no order or name.

Letter containing $1, from New Lisbon, Wis., no order or name.

Letter containing 30c, dated at Mariana, no State, signed Mrs. R. A. Sexton.

Letter containing $1, dated at Westerville, Neb., no signature.

Letter containing $1, to pay for seven copies, dated at Deer Creek, no State.

Letter containing 50c, dated at Elmwood, no State, signed Isaac D. Taylor.

Letter containing 25c, dated at Mineral City, Ind., no name signed.

Letter containing 25c, no date, signed D. P. Van Horn, per L. H.

Letter containing 25c, no date or name.

Letter containing 25c, no date, signed Wm. Crothers.

Letter containing 35c, dated at Smithville, Va., no name signed.

Letter containing $1.60, no date, signed C. B. Streitberger.

Letter containing 20c, no date, signed D.M. Redman, paper to go to John Black.

Letter containing 25c, dated at Caseville, no State, signed F. Crawford.

If E. B. Hamaker, P. M. of Chesterville will give his full address the matter will be looked into.

Letter containing 20c, no date, signed F. F. Blair.

A list of 15 names, no date, no order.

Letter containing 25c, no date or name.

Letter containing 30c, postmarked Ripley O., no signature.

Letter containing 20c, no date, signed Ed. T. Denson.

Letter containing 25c, no date, order or name.

Letter containing $1, dated at Peebe, no State signed Charles Sly.

Letter containing 30c, dated at Lemore, Cal., no signature.

Letter containing $1, dated at Dow, Wabash Co., Ind., no signature.

Letter containing 20c, dated at Guilford, no State, paper to go to L. W. Thrail, signed L. L. Rowland.

Letter containing 25c, dated at Garrett, signed C. Boon.

Letter containing $1, no date, signed Isaac D. Leslie.

Letter containing $1, no date, signed L. H. Devoe.

Letter containing $1, no date, signed Geo. Doty.

Letter containing $1, dated at Bridgeport, no State and no signature.

Letter containing $1, no date, signed Wm. P. Smith.

Letter containing 90c, no date, signed Charles Schlemer.

Letter containing 50c, no date, signed Ella Sanger.

Letter containing $1, dated at Poplar Hill, Kan., no signature.

Letter containing 50c, dated at Joplin, Mo., no signature or order.

Letter containing $1.40, dated at Watertown, N. Y., no signature or order.

Letter containing $1.70, dated at Cherry Fork, O., no signature or order.

Letter containing $1, no date or name.

Letter containing $1, dated at Dover, no State, signed Mrs. Ella J. Walsh.

Letter containing $1, no date, paper to go to J. C. Zatin, signed A. Daggett.

Letter containing $2, dated at Red Rock, no State, signed A. H. Howard.

Letter containing $4 for Blade and Century, dated at White Pigeon, Mich., no signature.

Letter containing $1, no postoffice, county or State, signed Wm. B. Grover.

Letter containing $1, letter postmarked Karilaus, Pa., signed Tabitha Baird.

Letter containing 30c, dated at Rochester, no State, signed L. R. Hibbard.

Letter containing $1, dated at Litchfield, no State, signed Mrs. C. C. Patrick.

Parties remitting money or express order SHOULD ALWAYS give their name and address. We often get money without either, and afterwards inquiries as to the receipt of the money. Our patrons will please bear this in mind, as we can do nothing without their NAME and ADDRESS IN FULL.

OUR CLUB LIST.

We have made arrangements with the publishers, enabling us to send the BLADE and either of the following publications for the prices annexed (postage prepaid):

WEEKLIES.	Their Price.	With BLADE.
Chimney Corner	4 00	4 30
Harper's Bazar	4 00	4 30
Harper's Weekly	4 00	4 30
New York Ledger	3 00	3 30
Prairie Farmer	2 00	2 35
Rural New Yorker and seeds	2 00	2 35
Scientific American	3 20	3 60
Waverly Magazine	4 00	4 60
Chicago Advance	2 50	3 10
Weekly Am. Bee Journal	2 00	2 35
MONTHLIES.		
Wide Awake (Juvenile)	3 00	3 53
St. Nicholas (Juvenile)	3 00	3 60
American Agriculturist	1 50	2 10
Ladies' Floral Cabinet	1 75	2 10
Phrenological Journal	2 00	2 60
Our Little Ones (Juvenile)	1 50	2 15
Arthurs' Home Magazine	2 00	2 35
Atlantic Monthly	4 00	4 30
Brainard's Musical World	1 50	2 05
Leslie's Popular Monthly	2 50	3 10
Leslie's Sunday Magazine	2 50	3 10
Harper's Monthly	4 00	4 10
Godey's Lady Book	2 00	2 70
Peterson's Magazine	2 00	2 45
The Century	4 00	4 60
Western World	1 00	1 50

In making this proposition we stipulate that we must receive at the SAME TIME one subscriber to the BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from the list. They need not both be sent to the same person, nor even to the same Postoffice, and in renewing their subscriptions, old as well as new subscribers may avail themselves of the offer.

A NEW COTTON PLANT.

A Georgia Man Has Hybridized Cotton and Okra.

Attention is now attracted in the South to a new cotton plant, which bids fair to be immensely valuable. For many years a gentleman of Macon, Ga., has been carefully experimenting to hybridize the cotton plant that grows wild in Florida with the common okra. The new plant retains the okra stalk and the foliage of the cotton. Its flower and fruit, however, are strikingly unlike either cotton or okra. The plant has an average height of over two feet, and each plant has only one bloom. This is a magnificent flower, very much like the great magnolia in fragrance and equally as large. Like the cotton bloom, the flower is white for several days after it opens, after which it is first pale pink, and gradually assumes darker shades of this color, until it becomes red, when it drops, disclosing a wonderful boll. For about ten days this boll resembles the cotton boll, and then its growth suddenly increases, as if by magic, until it reaches the size of a big cocoanut. Not until it reaches this size does the lint appear. Then its snowy threads begins to burst from the boll, but are securely held in place by the okra-like thorns or points that line the boll. One experienced picker can easily gather 800 pounds a day, and fast hands more. Were the only saving that of labor in gathering the lint, the result of Mr. Subers' experiment would entitle him to the everlasting gratitude of the Southern farmer. But this is not all—there are no seeds in the lint. Each boll produces about two pounds of very long, staple cotton, superior to the Sea Island, and at the bottom of the boll there are from four to six seeds, resembling persimmon seed. This new cotton, therefore, needs no ginning. Such a plant would revolutionize the cotton industry in the South.

"Brown's Bronchial Troches" are widely known as an admirable remedy for Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Cough and Throat troubles. *Sold only in boxes.*

How to Catch Cold.

A great many people cannot see why it is they do not take cold when exposed to cold when exposed to cold winds and rain. The fact is, and it ought to be more generally understood, that nearly every cold is contracted indoors, and is not directly due to the cold outside, but to the heat inside. A man will go to bed at night feeling as well as usual and wake up with a royal cold. He goes pecking around in search of cracks and keyholes and tiny drafts Weather strips are procured and the house made as tight as a fruit can. In a few days more the whole family have colds. Let a man go home tired or exhausted, eat a full supper of starchy and vegetable food, occupy his mind intently for a while, go to bed in a warm, close room, and if he doesn't have a cold in the morning it will be a wonder. A drink of whisky, or a glass or two of beef before supper will facilitate matters very much. People swallow more colds down their throats than they receive from contact with the air, no matter how cold or chilly it may be. Plain, hearty suppers are good to go to bed on, and are far more conducive to refreshing sleeping than a glass of beer or a dose of chloral. In the estimation of a great many this statement is rank heresy, but in the light of science, common sense and experience it is gospel truth.

Increase of Population in Germany.

The German people, who were only 25,000,000 in 1816, are now 45,500,000, and their present rate of increase is greater than that of any European race. The population, which in France only increases by 26 a year for every 10,000 and in Great Britain by only 101, increases in Germany by 115, and this in spite of a vast emigration which, since 1816, has carried away 3,5000,00, mostly young adults. There is no sign of suspension in this rate of increase, while there are signs that it is much too rapid for the country to support. The vast, flat, sandy, wind-swept plain which makes up so much of Northern Germany is not fertile; the artisans, though most industrious, find it difficult to dispose of their labor, and in 1882 the Prussian officials discovered that the number of heads of families who must be exempted from direct taxation because the were earning less than $125 a year exceeded 7,000,000, and what was more formidable, increased with every year.

A Talk With Girls.

Girls, don't be in a hurry to get married. If you are but sixteen, don't allow such an idea to enter your head for at least four years. Don't even run the risk of it by permitting any young man to get as far as the proposing point. Fight them off, and make them wait or go away to somebody who is ready. Don't live under the impression that you must accept the first love sick youth who proposes. Be patient, deliberate and sagacious. There is a world of happiness for you between sixteen and twenty. The world would be a dreary old world if it were not for the sweet faces of young girls with their piquant sayings and melting smiles. Your father has bought you a piano, and you have learned how to play after many long and wearisome lessons. Don't spoil all by getting married, for after that you won't have much use for your piano. After you have reached twenty, it would be well to consider the matrimonial problem with some seriousness.

A Great Australian River.

It is a common mistake to assume that Australia is a country destitute of large rivers; on the contrary, it possesses one of the longest watercourses in the world, viz., the Darling, which is navigable for 2,345 miles, placing it third in rank among the rivers of the world, estimated by their navigable length, and considerably above the Nile, navigable for 1,500 miles; the Danube, navigable for 1,700 miles; the Rhine, 600, and the Thames, navigable for only 188 miles.—*Toronto Globe.*

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THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., PUBLISHERS. | D. R. LOCKE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, JANUARY. 15

[☞ ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

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TO THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE THE BLADE.

Several thousand copies of this issue of the BLADE go to persons not subscribers, their friends having sent in their names for specimen copies. We ask them to examine it carefully, and if they like it, to enroll themselves on our books. We claim for the BLADE that it is the best weekly paper published in the United States, or the world, and the cheapest. It publishes more matter, it is more carefully edited, and is altogether the best for the family. Its enormous circulation in every state in the Union, is the best evidence of its value.

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Send in your name as soon possible. Take notice of the combinations we make of books and the Waterbury Watch. Any how, examine the paper carefully.

THE BLADE'S POSITION.

We have received in the last few days a number of letters from persons among the legion of new subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE, making inquiries concerning its plan of fighting the aggressions of the Rum Power. In place of answering these individually, we will briefly give a general answer to a number of letters here:

The BLADE recognizes the fact that the ranks of both the Republican and Democratic parties contain a great proportion of voters who favor prohibitory legislation, but who regard the questions at issue between these two parties in the nation as of greater importance than prohibition. Hence they will not vote the Prohibition ticket, but stay within their own party lines.

The most speedy and practical way of reaching prohibition is through the action of the state legislatures. The BLADE proposes, then, that the friends of prohibition demand of the candidates nominated by both Republicans and Democrats for the state legislature, whether they will support and work for prohibition; and that the men who will so pledge themselves shall receive the united support of all friends of prohibition, and thus at once elect a majority of the legislature on this issue—every voter casting his ballot according to his party affiliations as to all other candidates upon the ticket.

The liquor question is recognized as the one issue in Ohio during the coming campaign. The election of members of the General Assembly will hinge upon it. The BLADE has no need of saying that it is Republican to the core; but it will support only those candidates for legislative positions who will pledge themselves in favor of prohibition, be they Republicans or Democrats.

THERE are a good many people in this country who have a vague idea that the amount of the circulating medium of the country has been decreased, and that the hard times in part result therefrom. This is an error. The net increase in the amount of gold and silver coin in the country in 1884 (deducting the mint director's estimate that $11,000,000 gold and silver coin were used in the arts, and that $6,000,000 trade dollars were withdrawn from circulation) was over $22,000,000. This makes the coin circulation on January 1, 1885, $563,000,000 in gold and $264,000,000 in silver, a total of $827,000,000. During the year there was an increase in gold and silver certificates of over $49,000,000, and a decrease in bank notes of $21,000,000, giving a net increase in paper of over $28,000,000. This gave us a total net increase of circulating medium within the year of $57,000,000.

A TELEGRAM brings the tidings of the death of MYRA CLARK GAINES, in New Orleans, at the age of 80 years. Her life is familiar to most of our readers. The long contest she carried on in the courts with such invincible determination, brought her constantly before the public for many years, and gave her a place in history. She was a woman of brilliant abilities, and an indomitable will. She was married twice, the first time to Mr. WHITNEY, of Binghamton, N. Y., and afterwards to Gen. GAINES.

A BOLD PAPER.

A brave paper, a fearless paper, a judicious paper, a paper that has honest convictions and dares to announce them—that is what the WEEKLY BLADE is. If you want such a paper send a dollar and get it for a year. The BLADE is the cheapest and best paper printed.

HENDRICKS's interpretation of CLEVELAND's civil service letter is that it means the removal of intensely partisan office-seekers, and that every Republican office-holder is to be considered as intensely partisan.

THE TIME FOR RENEWALS.

We ask our subscribers to notice the date on the labels on their papers, and then renew in time that the BLADE may come to them without intermission or break. *Renew in time.*

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

The business failures for the past week footed up 457, a number far in excess of any previous report. The majority of these were in the South and West. This enormous total shows that trade is not yet on a firm footing, by any means, though the outlook is hopeful. Western produce still holds at the advance, although speculation has caused some sharp vibrations in rates.

THE stock of wheat in sight in American markets east of the Rocky mountains and afloat for Europe amounts to 63,368,000 bushels, against 54,318,000 bushels a year ago, and corn 7,274,000 against 12,415,000. The deficit of wheat in English markets overcomes the surplus on this side, leaving a net aggregate deficiency of about 6,000,000 bushels in sight. Receipts from the Northwest are again increasing. In hog products the spirit of speculation has taken surprisingly sudden turns—advancing the market rapidly in the first half of the week, but reducing prices very sharply in the second half. It is estimated that the winter packing will exceed that of the last winter season by about 1,000,000 to 1,200,000 hogs.

ONE bright promise for the business future is the starting up of iron mills and furnaces in Pittsburg, 11,450 men having begun work Monday who have been out of employment for some time. The same report comes from other parts of the country. There is no question but that the tide is turning.

THE ST. JOHN imbroglio has reached a point at which it is hard to say where the truth is to be found. MR. CLARKSON, of Iowa, a member of the Republican national committee, made the definite charge that propositions were made by JAMES F. LEGATE, a Kansas supporter of ST. JOHN, a politician of unsavory character, to that committee, to sell his (ST. JOHN'S) influence during the campaign for money. ST. JOHN denies the charge, and LEGATE denies the letters which have been published as emanating from him, or that he ever made such a proposition. The matter will not rest here. Neither ST. JOHN nor CLARKSON can afford to rest under the stigma the other puts upon him, and the truth will, sooner or later, come to the surface.

NOT the least of the important questions which the incoming administration will have on its hands is the famous "Fisheries" clause of the treaty of Washington, which clause expires during the summer, and which expiration will open up a question which has been a bone of contention ever since the treaty of Ghent, which closed the war of 1812. That clause is a miserably one-sided affair, greatly to the advantage of the Canadians. It should not be re-enacted. The duty on Canadian fish should be restored, and this nation also be relieved of the necessity of paying enormously for the privilege of fishing for cod inside the Dominion sea-line.

THE movement of corn from Nebraska, and especially from the Republican valley, has begun in earnest, and the volume now going to various markets is something remarkable. The reason assigned is that the farmers can hold on no longer, being compelled to sell to pay taxes and meet current expenses.

THE famous ANNEKE JANS claim has come up again in New York, in the form of a suit by "EMMA H. WALLACE, of Ohio," against the Rev. MORGAN DIX and the corporation of Trinity church, for one-third of the estate of ANNEKE JANS.

FOREIGN news is exceedingly meager for the past week. Nothing of importance has occurred in any of the leading countries of Europe. An official statement has been made that a messenger sent by Gen. WOLSELEY to Khartoum arrived there safely, but on his return he was captured and beaten, and all of Gen. GORDON'S dispatches taken from him but one, which said that all was well at Khartoum. The messenger reports that steamers were bringing cattle and grain from the north, and the garrison was in good health and spirits.

MEANWHILE Gen. WOLSELEY has determined that a fortnight hence he will be at Khartoum where probably he will fall foul of the Mahdi's troops and meet with the worst of the fighting, and it is quite likely that for some months to come the British forces will have all they want to contend with. Meanwhile OSMAN DIGMA still holds about the same position that he did before the two great battles at Tamanieb, and in order to complete the work it is necessary to dispatch another expedition by way of Suakim, to destroy him. Gen. WOLSELEY estimates the required strength at 3,000 picked men. Its operations need not occupy much time.

FRENCH inaction in the East is having its legitimate results. If the advantages obtained by the capture of Kelung in August had been followed up, the Northern end of Formosa would easily have fallen under French control in October. But the French commander did nothing, and now the Chinese general has been able to strengthen his position considerably. The blockade declared by the French is maintained, but more by the courtesy of the English than by the power of the Republic.

HUNGARY has just passed a law entitled, "an act to prevent married persons from deserting each other." We of America are prone to look upon the Hungarians as but little removed from barbarians, yet such a measure as this goes far to prove them farther advanced in the line of true civilization than ourselves.

THE situation in Madagascar seems doubtful, at least reports differ widely. Some of them say that the new Minister of War will send reinforcements thither, while others declare that nothing will be done but hold what is already in their possession. If the latter be true a great deal of trouble and expense give very small returns.

A CABLE dispatch says that ship building on the Tyne, which has been so long depressed, is reviving. This will give employment to a good many destitute people the other side of the water.

EARTHQUAKE shocks continue in Spain and a great deal of distress has been caused, while the panic is almost indescribable.

IF you like the BLADE'S views of things send another subscriber and renew your subscription.

IS IT A SMALL MATTER?

There are those who express themselves, in a mild way, as opposed to Intemperance, opposed to the degree that they would, if they could without too much trouble, destroy the traffic in Liquors, but who, after all, consider the matter as one which belongs to the individual, and altogether too small a thing to worry about in any way.

In short, these people regard intemperance as a matter of minor importance, and the agitation of the question as something too small for the consideration of any but small minds, and of men and women of limited ideas.

They do not know the importance of the question, nor the extent of the curse, and have no earthly idea of its importance. They do not know that the liquor traffic is organized destruction, that its cold and clammy fingers are extended in all directions, that its hand is on every house in the land, that its methods are as vile as anything born of the devil can be, and that its power is stronger than anything that has yet combatted it, except law, and that is an open question whether law is its master.

It has a thousand ways to do its work, but we have only space in this article to call attention to one of them. In a city like Toledo there are 800 whisky and beer shops. Of this number possibly 100 may be called respectable, that is the proprietors would not pick the pocket of a drunken man, and they observe the laws sufficiently as to have some little care as to whom they sell liquor. Neither do these sellers go especially out of their way to seek trade, for they have a sufficient number of customers who go to ruin voluntarily, to satisfy them. It is their interest to be as near decent as the miserable business they are in permits them to be.

Of the remaining 700 it is safe to say that 90 per cent. are merely traps, and traps of the most cruel description. On one street in the city of Toledo there are twenty dens whose principal business is the enticing of boys, the educating of their virgin stomachs to beer, the training of them to debauchery first, and crime afterward. They have back rooms, secure from the observation of the general public, where boys from 12 to 18 are not only permitted to come, but are lured in by all sorts of devilish arts. There are billiard tables for them, at which they may play pool, for drink; there are card tables at which they may play for drink; there are all the games at which they may play, the one inseperable condition being that upon the result of each game drink depends.

These boys have little money, for no father or mother gives a child of this tender age any amount of money which the keeper of the shop would care for. But he makes his money out of them, all the same. He gives them credit for all they choose to spend, the more the better. When this credit has reached the proper amount, for his purpose, he demands his money. The frightened boy astonished at the, to him, frightful amount, knows not what to do, and the whisky seller has him exactly where he wants him. He frightens him by threatening to send the bill to his father or mother; which threat brings the victim to his knees. Anything but that. Then it is suggested to the frightened boy, that his father has books, his mother linen, his sister jewelry, and he is taken to a pawnbroker who will advance money on such goods without asking where it comes from, or how obtained. The poor boy has but one alternative, he has exposure staring him in the face, and theft is his only escape. The pawnbroker and the rum-shop man are partners, the boy is inducted into crime, goods are removed from the house, retail theft begins, which rapidly progresses into wholesale, and an honest boy is converted into a thief.

The writer of these lines is conversant with one instance where two innocent servant girls were discharged from a house within six months on suspicion of stealing goods of this kind, the thief really being the youngest son of the family, who had been instructed by a rum-shop keeper first into beer, and afterward into theft to pay his bills. The ruin of the boy was deliberately planned and mercilessly executed.

This is no exaggerated statement. There is not a village where the sale of liquor is permitted, that does not have these traps in its midst. There may be liquor without crime, but there is very little crime without liquor. Liquor first betrays the boy, and then it holds him in its horrible embrace, until he is ruined, and useless even to the interest that blighted him.

Is it a small matter? Is it a light thing to have in every city, town, village and hamlet in the country, men whose business it is to corrupt the youth of the country, to teach them theft, to disease them mentally, physically and morally, to educate them in debauchery and criminality? Is it a small thing to have such a business, backed by millions of dollars, and every man concerned in it, from the brewer and distiller who makes the hell broth down through the wholesaler and retailer, with a money interest in the destruction of children? Is it a small thing to have every family threatened by these vampires, with the certainty that every year the ghastly roll of their victims will be enlarged?

These holes cost the city of Toledo three millions of dollars a year; and they are the direct cause of 90 per cent. of the criminality that bears so heavily upon the decent citizens. They cost half the families of the city the one great misery of life.

And let it be borne in mind that this destruction of men and boys is an organized business, with more money invested in it than in almost any other single branch of business, that this wide-spread ruin is not the result of the viciousness of the victims, but that they are deliberately entrapped and worked upon in a purely systematic way, for the wretched profit there is in the nefarious trade. Ninety per cent. of the wrecks which are to be found everywhere did not go to the rum-seller of their own accord. The trap was laid for them, and they fell into it unwittingly. These hunters of men went out to find those whom they could lead into them, and the most devilish arts were employed to catch them. This is going on all the time, and the number of victims are increasing precisely in proportion to the increase in the facilities for conducting the business. More money is being put into it every day, and new methods are being devised every day to make this money a profitable investment.

Is this a small thing? If it be so considered we know of nothing worthy to be considered by the public. There must be some way to check these men-hunters. The BLADE knows of but one way, and that is, by Prohibition to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

"THE BLADE'S PLAN."

We are receiving every day the most earnest approval of our plan for the organization of the people on a non-partisan basis, for the accomplishment of Prohibition. We are sending out blanks every day to almost every state in the Union. Send for them, remitting, if you choose, ten, fifteen, or twenty-five cents to cover cost of printing and postage. And, when you have them, give a few hours to the organization of your township for this purpose.

THE REAGAN BILL.

MR. REAGAN'S bill to regulate interstate commerce has passed the House of Representatives by an emphatic majority, the vote standing yeas 158, nays 75. This measure is of great interest, as it is aimed at the abuses of railroad transportation, and we give a brief outline of its provisions. The entire bill would occupy two columns and a half of the BLADE, in small type, but the following embraces all material points:

The first section prohibits discrimination against any class of shippers, by requiring the charges to be the same to all for like service, and declares that all charges shall be "reasonable"—an extremely vague and unsatisfactory provision, though it is perhaps inserted to establish clearly the fact that Congress claims power to control the rates to be charged as well to regulate traffic. The second section forbids rebates or drawbacks, direct or indirect. The third prevents all combinations or pooling arrangements. The fourth prohibits higher charges for short hauls than for longer ones. The fifth requires copies of the schedule of rates to be posted at every freight depot, which schedule shall show what part of the charge is for transportation, and what for loading, unloading, and other terminal facilities; and provides that the rates may be changed only after five days' notice. The sixth declares that the act applies to all property, and all necessary storage, handling, delivery, etc., on one substantially continuous carriage, whether over one road or several. The seventh allows a penalty to the shipper or owner of three times the amount of actual damages sustained, to be recovered by suit in any state or federal court; and if the damage shall be found to be willful, the court may allow the costs to cover the counsel fees of the complainant. The section prescribes minutely the course of procedure in such cases. The eighth section makes the violation of any provision of the act by any one connected with a railway in any official capacity, a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not over $2,000. The ninth excepts shipments wholly within a state from the provisions of the act (Congress not having any constitutional power in such case, and allows lower rates to shipments for the government or for charitable purposes.

The measure now goes to the Senate, and should be promptly passed by that body. It may be incomplete in some parts, but it is better that legislation on an untried subject shall not be too radical. The practical operation of the bill will bring out clearly all defects that may exist, will suggest the necessary additions and amendments, and, finally, will show to the different state legislatures what measures are necessary to be enacted to properly supplement congressional control, in those branches of the subject which are among the reserved rights of the states.

"SOCIAL ETIQUETTE."

Miss Bouton's new book, "Social Etiquette," is just as valuable as her famous work, "Health and Beauty." It is a book which should be in every household where their are young lads and girls, and older persons will find profit in its pages. How to do things in the right way is something always worth knowing. The book should be in every household.

ENGLAND is still extending her foreign possessions. Her latest "annexations" are all of the African coast line between Cape Colony and Natal, and all the islands lying between Australia and New Guinea. A protectorate has also been proclaimed over Southern New Guinea.

THE United States exported 10,000,000 more bushels of wheat in 1884 than in 1883, but received over $4,000,000 less for it. The flour shipments were almost the same in quantity, but $4,500,000 less in value. Nothing could more strikingly show the great decline in wheat than these figures.

THE following paragraph, from the Kansas *Farmer*, shows that there is such a thing as prohibition in Kansas, the city of the liquor men to the contrary notwithstanding:

All the saloons of Topeka closed business last Monday. Some had shut down last week; the rest quit Monday. The grand jury has a strong influence on these fellows. This is the third time since the law took effect that it has been completely and thoroughly enforced; yet we are told you can't enforce it.

NOTICE our combination offers in this issue. You certainly need some of these things, and you can get them at a very little cost in combination with the BLADE.

MR. TOWNSHEND of Illinois, is greatly in favor of an American "zollverein," or customs union, instead of the system of reciprocal treaties which the government has been negotiating. He desires to have a commission to work the matter up. His argument is, that the nations that enter into reciprocal treaties with us can at any time make similar treaties with England and other European nations, thus giving us no advantage over our great competitors for a foreign market, while with a zollverein the advantages that Mexico and the various states of South and Central America gave us could not be given outside the Western Continent. He says, "a customs union of all the nations on this continent would be the broadest and most effective application of the maxim of 'America for Americans.'"

FARMING is fostered in Denmark. She has dairy schools and schools of agriculture. Improved methods are constantly put in practice by every farmer, down to the humblest, and, as a consequence that little, cold, barren country is able to export many excellent cattle, great quantities of dairy and farm produce, and her agricultural population is thriving and comfortable.

OVERPRODUCTION.

The free traders still find voice, in the midst of the dull times, to cry out that we are suffering from "overproduction;" that our manufactories are on too great a scale, and that we have the means of manufacturing far more than we can consume; that we have over-produced largely; and that we are suffering from overproduction. Of course this is a putting of "the cart before the horse;" the confounding of cause and effect. Stocks are left on manufacturers' and dealers' hands because the consumers have not the means to buy. Overproduction is the result of the business depression, not its cause.

MR. ROBERT T. PORTER has compiled statistics of our imports for the five years, from 1880 to 1884, inclusive—be it noted that this brings us up to the beginning of this present month and year—which show clearly that we buy abroad every year enormously of the very things we are able to manufacture for ourselves; that is, we have the raw material, and of course the skill necessary to manufacture them, and they are the very lines of goods which we manufacture largely. We reproduce below his summary of eleven different classes, each embracing an enormous variety of different articles, the manufacture of which is carried on in the United States, but which, nevertheless, we import largely. The column of dollars gives the average value of the imports of these manufactured goods for each of the five years mentioned:

Wool and manufactures of	$49,600,000
Iron and steel rails, manufactures of	46,700,000
Manufactures of silk	34,500,000
Cotton and manufactures of	29,400,000
Flax and manufactures of	22,200,000
Tin plates and manufactures of	16,000,000
Chemicals (dutiable)	15,000,000
Hemp, jute and manufactures of	10,800,000
Earthenware and all china	6,600,000
Glass and manufactures of	6,600,000
Embroideries, silk, linen, etc	3,400,000

That is, since January 1, 1880, the United States has purchased abroad $1,204,000,000 worth of the class of goods that we are able to make in this country. *Twelve hundred and four millions of dollars* paid out to the manufacturers and workingmen of Europe, that could and should have been paid to our own mechanics and wage-workers!

Does this look like over-production?

To buy abroad, in five years, this enormous amount of manufactures, and then to say that business is depressed and times are hard, because we are producing too much, is absurd.

This money should have been kept at home. We should have made these goods instead of buying them. We should have kept our own machinery and workingmen busy, and held our home market for our home producers. Had this $1,204,000,000 which we have sent abroad every year for the past five years been kept at home by such a policy, would times be as hard to-day as they are? Every year we have sent out of our own country an average of over $4 for each and every man, woman and child in all this broad land. There is a defect in a system which allows this which needs prompt remedy.

THE BEST BOOKS AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

"Andersonville," "Nasby in Exile," "Old Dr. Carlin's Recipe Book," "Health and Beauty" and "Social Etiquette," are the books which we offer in combination with the BLADE. These books are all of our own publication, three of them are sold at much less than the regular price, and all of them are valuable publications, which should be in every house. See the announcement on 8th page of this issue of the BLADE.

GEN. GRANT.

It will be remembered that, to avert the failure of the firm of GRANT & WARD, Gen. GRANT was induced to borrow $150,000 of WM. H. VANDERBILT only a day or two before the final wreck of the firm. The suits that were brought against GRANT to condemn and sell the property which he had turned over to his creditors, were entered upon at the General's urgent request, as he desired his obligation to VANDERBILT paid in full. Mr. VANDERBILT bought in all the personal property pledged by Gen. GRANT as security for the debt, and on Saturday wrote to Mrs GRANT, presenting it, together with the judgments and the mortgages on the realty, to Mrs. GRANT as a separate estate, the only condition being that on his death the General's trophies of war having historical interest should go the national government. This generous offer was declined so far as everything except the trophies were concerned. These, Gen. GRANT said, should go to Washington as soon as they could be transmitted. Mr. VANDERBILT then wrote a second letter in which he modified his offer so as to create a trust fund out of the proceeds of the real estate, the income of the fund to go to Mrs. GRANT during her life-time and the principal to be at her disposal by will. This offer was at first accepted, but afterward was finally declined by Mrs. GRANT.

This attitude of Gen. and Mrs. GRANT is in the highest degree honorable, yet the offer of Mr. VANDERBILT was an act of princely liberality and prompted by the most delicate consideration. But the country owes a debt to Gen. GRANT. He was General of the ARMY, a position he would have held for life or until retired, had he not yielded to the imperative call of the people and accepted the Presidency. He resigned his position in the army to obey the behest of the nation, as the result proves, to his own pecuniary disadvantage. The wrong thus done him by the nation should be righted; and the shortest manner of doing it is for Congress to at once place him upon the retired list of the army with the full pay of the rank which he resigned in obedience to the demand of the people. We believe that such a step would be but justice, and we do not think that the old hero would refuse it.

OUR CARTOON.

We have sent out over 50,000 of our cartoon, "Do you see any good coming out of it?" It meets with the greatest approval. We send it to any address free of charge, though those wanting them in quantities won't offend us by remitting a few postage stamps with which to pay postage. But send for them, and post them up when you have received them.

ENCKE'S comet is gradually growing in brightness as it approaches the sun, the observers tell us. This is one of the few "short period" comets known, and has the additional peculiarity that its time of revolution is slowly but steadily diminishing. Its period, when first observed, was 1,211 days, which has diminished to 1,207 days and a fraction. It will reach its nearest point to the sun on March 7,

THE BLAIR EDUCATIONAL BILL

The perpetuity of a republic rests in the intelligence of the masses. Illiteracy is the foe of popular government. An ignorant voting population is like a mob—powerful, but irresponsible. It is liable to become the prey of demagogues. The education of the people is the ark of safety. It is a sure defense against the great danger of a popular government—the ignorance of the voters. The ratio of illiteracy in this country is always too large, and it is evident that it is increasing.

The sixteen Southern states contain the great bulk of the illiterate voting population of the United States. The ratio for each state is herewith given—that is, the proportion of males of 21 years old and upwards, unable to read or to write; Alabama, 46.7 per cent.; Arkansas, 30.4; Delaware, 17.6; Florida, 38.6; Georgia 45.1; Kentucky, 26.0; Louisiana. 47.4; Maryland, 19.4; Mississippi, 46.7; North Carolina, 42.3; South Carolina, 51.9; Tennessee, 31.9; Virginia, 39.3; West Virginia, 16.4; Missouri, 11.0; Texas, 24.3.

Of course the great majority of these ignorant voters in the states named are negroes. Their ignorance is the plea the Bourbons use to justify their methods of intimidation and ball-dozing, by which the colored vote of the South is practically rendered valueless. The claim is that "ignorant, low-down niggers" shall not be allowed to rule white men.

But the day is coming fast when the blacks will rule eight of those sixteen states. Inside of twenty years, at the present rates of increase of the whites and blacks in the states along the Atlantic and the gulf, from Virginia to Louisiana, and including these two, there will be a heavy majority of colored voters. The black race finds in those states the conditions under which it flourishes and increases, and consequently the negroes are increasing more rapidly than the whites. And when this ignorant mass of citizens learns it real strength, it will reach out and possess the power the law and the constitution places in its hands, despite the efforts of the whites. The present condition of things can not go on forever. Power will necessarily pass into the hands of the colored race, and it must be prepared for it. Here is the gravest problem that now presents itself in American politics.

There is but one thing to be done—educate the negro. Educate not only him, but the illiterate everywhere. The danger is less only in degree in every state in the Union. There is now pending in the House a measure to effect this, which was passed by the Senate last April. It is the BLAIR educational bill. A resume of its provisions is herewith given:

It appropriates for educational purposes the first year after the passage of the act the sum of $7,000,000; the second year, $10,000,000; the third year, $15,000,000; the fourth year, $13,000,000; the fifth year, $11,000,000; the sixth year, $9,000,000; the seventh year, $7,000,000; the eighth and final year, $5,000,000; or a total of $77,000,000. This money is to be annually divided among the states and territories in proportion to their illiteracy. Particular care has been taken not to trench upon the rights of states, the bill expressly providing that the amount given to any state shall not exceed the amount expended out of its own revenues for the maintenance of public schools. This money is not to be devoted to the building of school-houses, but to the teaching of all children of school age, without regard to race or sex, and with equal privileges, and one-tenth of the amount devoted to each state may be used for educating teachers. And it is especially provided that if any state misapplies its fund or fails to comply with the conditions of the act, or if it does not "distribute the moneys raised for common school purposes equally for the education of all the children without distinction of race or color," it shall be deprived of the benefits of the bill.

It is difficult to see what improvement could be made in this bill, or what objection could be found to it—except some hide-bound Bourbon, who believes the negro should yet be a slave, should object on that ground. There is no partisan advantage to be gained in it, nor any party question involved in it. The South would get the bulk of it, because it has the most of the ignorant class, and the bill provides that the money shall be distributed on the basis of illiteracy.

The need of this measure is pressing. It should be acted on at once by the House, that the other appropriations may be adjusted with reference to the outlay which it would demand. It is a costly measure, apparently, but it is far cheaper to educate the ignorant than to run the risk of the grave dangers menacing the republic from its illiterate citizens.

FIRE LOSSES.

It is a fact that, in times of great business depression, losses by fire increase. So patent has this become, that the insurance companies are becoming alarmed. They declare that the increase of fires is out of all proportion to the premiums received, and even beyond the ability of the country to stand—for every fire annihilates some of the wealth of the country. The sum total of the country's capital is diminished by the value of the property consumed. It is an absolute, total loss, originating in carelessness, or worse. The insurance companies are discussing a general rise in rates, to meet the increased risk, and are also agitating the matter of compelling the insured to recognize their own share of responsibility by inserting in each policy a clause similar to the one following, which, it is claimed, would reduce the fire loss one third:

It is further expressly provided as one of the conditions, and made a part of this policy, that in case any loss or damage is occasioned by fire which originated in or upon any part of the premises insured, or containing the property insured, while such part is occupied by, or under the control of the assured, then and in such case the company shall not be liable to pay any greater sum than three-fourths the actual cash value of the property so insured at the time of the fire, not exceeding the amount of this policy. And in case of other insurance upon the property, whether valid or invalid, the said company shall not be liable to pay or contribute any more than the pro rata proportion of three-fourths of said value.

THE famous maxim of the Jacksonian school of Democrats, "to the victor belongs the spoils," was uttered by WILLIAM L. MARCY, of New York, in a speech in the United States Senate in 1832. The occasion was his replying to a criticism on the ring of politicians of that day forming the famous "Albany Regency:"

It may be that the politicians of New York are not so fastidious as some gentlemen are, as to disclosing the principles upon which they act. The boldly *preach* what they *practice*. When they are contending for victory, they avow their intention of enjoying the fruits of it. If they are defeated, they expect to retire from office. If they are successful, they claim, as a matter of right, the advantages of success. They see nothing wrong in the rule, that to the victor belong the spoils of the enemy.

NASBY NEXT WEEK.

MR. NASBY does not appear this week, but next week he will be in the BLADE, as wise and philosophical as ever.

In the meantime raise a club for the BLADE in your neighborhood.

BUILDING UP THE CAUSE.

A strong national organization has been formed in Boston to build up the cause of prohibition, called the "National League (non-partisan and non-sectarian) for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic." Its proposed line of action is precisely the BLADE'S plan, and the list of prominent men interested in this League is proof that this practical means of attacking and crushing the Rum Power commends itself to the best element of the country. A partial list is as follows:

New Hampshire—Rev. Dr. James Pike, Sen. H. W. Blair.

Massachusetts—Rev. Drs. Webb, Foljambe, Withrow and Olmstead, ex-Gov. Long, ex-Sen. D. B. Ingalls and Councilor Gressley of Clinton.

Vermont—Rev. J. D. Beeman, president Montpelier Female seminary.

Connecticut—Hon. Oliver Hoyt of Stamford, Rev. Dr. J. H. Vincent and Rev. Dr. J. O. Peck of New Haven.

Rhode Island—Rev. C. B. Pitblade of Providence.

New York—Judge G. C. Reynolds of Brooklyn, Rev. J. M. Buckley, editor of the *Christian Advocate*, Prof. William Wells, of Union College, Rev. Drs. Daniel Curry, J. M. Reed and J. M. King of New York city, Prof. G. F. Comfort of Syracuse University, Rev. Dr. B. I. Ives of Auburn, Rev. Dr. O. H. Warren of Syracuse, editor of the *Northern Christian Advocate*, Rev. Thomas B. Shepherd of Watertown, H. K. Carroll of the *Independent*, Rev. Dr. W. H. Olin of Binghamton.

New Jersey—Prof. S. F. Upham, of Drew Seminary.

Pennsylvania—Rev. Dr. H. J. Kynett, Corresponding Secretary of the Methodist Church Extension Society; Hon. Joseph D. Weeks, of Pittsburg, Secretary of the Republican National Committee; Judge J. W. F. White, of the Pittsburg Court of Common Pleas; Rev. Dr. B. T. Tanner, of Philadelphia; Rev. Dr. C. W. Smith, editor of the Pittsburg *Christian Advocate*; Rev. Dr. J. S. J. McConnell, of Philadelphia; Judge Daniel Agnew, of the State Constitutional Amendment Association; James B. Murdoch, of Pittsburg.

Delaware—Rev. D. J. B. Quigg of Smyrna, Rev. T. E. Martendell of Dover.

Maryland—Rev. Dr. John Paulson, Rev. J. M. D. Riley and Bishop A. W. Wayman, all of Baltimore.

Washington, D. C.—Bishop E. G. Andrews, Hon. Hiram Price, Rev. Dr. S. K. Cox, Bishop John M. Brown.

Ohio—Rev. Dr. R. S. Rust of Cincinnati, Hon. Lewis Miller of Akron, Rev. Dr. J. H. Bayliss, editor of the *Western Christian Advocate* of Cincinnati, Rev. Dr. J. W. Case of Cleveland.

Indiana—J. W. Ray, of Indianapolis.

Illinois—Bishop S. M. Merrill, of Chicago, Rev. Dr. Arthur Edwards, editor of the *Northwest Christian Advocate*, Rev. Dr. W. P. Stone, Rev. Dr. Herrick Johnson of Chicago.

Minnesota—Rev. Dr. J. F. Chaffee of Minneapolis.

Iowa—Prof. S. M. Fellows of the state university, Pres. G. F. Magoun of Iowa college, Pres. W. F. King of Cornell college, Pres. W. M. Brooks of Tabor college, Rev. Dr. Emory Miller of Des Moines, Rev. Dr. Daniel Burrell of Dubuque, Rev. H. E. Wing of Muscatine.

Kansas—Rev. A. B. Campbell of the State Constitutional Amendment association.

Missouri—Rev. Dr. C. L. Goodell, Bishop Thomas Bowman, Rev. Dr. B. St. James, editor of the *Central Christian Advocate*, Rev. E. B. Burrows, all of St. Louis; Rev. L. S. Shumate, of Louisiana; Rev. J. C. Plumb, Corresponding Secretary of the State Temperance union.

West Virginia—Rev. George E. Hile, of Wheeling.

North Carolina—Prof. J. C. Price of Salisbury, Prof. J. W. Hood of Fayetteville.

Georgia—Rev. Dr. Attieus G. Haygood of Oxford, Bishop J. M. Walden of Atlanta.

Florida—Judge Archibald and Rev. C. C. McLean of Jacksonville.

Tennessee—Rev. Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, editor of the Nashville *Christian Advocate*.

Mississippi—Rev. Dr. C. K. Marshall, of Vicksburg.

Louisiana—Rev. Dr. C. B. Gallaway, editor of the New Orleans *Christian Advocate*.

California—Rev. Dr. M. C. Briggs of San Francisco.

The address recites that, fearing that the temperance movement would suffer from the action of the Prohibition national organization during the late campaign, this league has been formed to prevent the cause of prohibition from suffering loss, and to push on the fight against the Rum Power by all practical measures. The chief points embraced in the constitution are:

1.—We believe the evils of intemperance to be manifold and virulent, alike destructive of individual character, social welfare and national progress.

2.—We believe the common instincts of humanity, the deeper claims of patriotism and the broader demands of Christian philanthropy imperatively call upon all men everywhere to make common cause against these evils.

3.—We believe the church of God, temperance organizations and the circulation of wise temperance literature to be the chief of these moral agencies.

4.—We believe that moral reform depends primarily upon intelligent convictions in the hearts of the people.

5.—We believe it is the right and duty of the state to legislate against the traffic in alcoholic beverages, and to enforce laws duly enacted, and that good results have always followed wise legislation when faithfully enforced.

We believe that any proposition so broadly and vitally affecting society in its physical, social, moral, economic and commercial interests as the suppression of the traffic in alcoholic beverages, involving so many questions of natural rights, should ultimately be submitted to the popular vote, settled by the verdict of the people, and thus lifted above the accidents and fluctuations of partisan legislation.

We believe that the temperance cause should avail itself of the advantages of legislative and civil action, secured by legitimate political effort; but we nevertheless believe that partisan political affiliations should be avoided, as expensive, dangerous and often disastrous modes of moral agitation and education.

Objects: First, the enforcement of laws against the liquor traffic; second, the withdrawal of legal sanction from the liquor traffic; third, the suppression of the liquor traffic; fourth, our ultimate purpose is, by constitutional and statutory provisions, to banish the liquor traffic from the land.

Methods: Discarding partisan entanglements, we announce our sole purpose to be the suppression of the liquor traffic; and for this we propose—First: To create and intensify public sentiment, by the pulpit, the platform and the press; Second: To educate the young, in the public schools and elsewhere, as to the nature and effects of alcoholic liquors; Third: To use all legitimate civil legislation, and to refer the question, for final decision, to the constitutional verdict of the people. We invite persons of all classes, creeds, parties and states to unite on this platform, and work and vote against the liquor traffic without exposing their several interests to the schemes of personal politicians and the perils of party politics.

The list of officers elected is as follows:

Pres., Rev. Dr. Dorchester, of Natick; gen. sec'y, Mrs. J. Ellen Foster; rec. sec'y, Rev. A. H. Plumb, D. D., of Boston; treas., Hon. Joseph D. Weeks, of Pittsburg; directors, the officers and Hon. Oliver Hoyt, of Connecticut; Lewis Miller, of Ohio; Hon. J. B. Farwell, of Illinois; Rev. E. E. Hale, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore and Mrs. C. S. Prescott, of Massachusetts; and Mrs. Annie Wittenmeyer, of Pennsylvania. A few vice presidents were chosen.

We have time at present only to call the particular attention of our readers to the fifth and seventh sections given above, and to the methods announced. We look to see great good result to the cause of practical prohibition from this organization.

SEND US NAMES.

Send us the names of your friends to whom we may send specimen copies. No matter where they are.—East, West, North or South, send them in. The BLADE is the only paper that can claim a purely National circulation. It goes to every State and Territory in the Union, and to almost every Postoffice. It is as popular in Maine as it is in Texas, and is read with as much avidity in New York as in Washington Territory. We want all the names we can get.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Emma H. Wallace, of Ohio, an alleged descendant of the far-famed Anneke Jans, has begun suit in New York against the Rev. Morgan Dix and the corporation of Trinity church to recover her share of the estate.——Dr. William H. Furness, of Philadelphia, by his ordination in 1825 the oldest Unitarian clergyman in this country, is still active in his ministry.——Editor Caleb Foote, of the Salem (Mass.) *Gazette*, at the age of 83, claims to be the oldest still active and acting journalist in the United States.——Australians have at last succeeded in raising salmon in their riv

Correspondence.

CHAT WITH CONTRIBUTORS.

James Wood, Magnolia, O., sends us an open letter to Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. It is a scathing review of his course, and ends with the apt quotation, "Get thee glass eyes, and, like a scurvy politician, seem to see the things thou dost not."

Rev. E. O. Sharpe, Shelbville, Ind., writes to say that an article recently printed in the BLADE, entitled "Bob Ingersoll on Whisky," is incorrectly attributed to Col. Ingersoll, and that the latter was not its author. It was sent the BLADE by a friend, with the request to publish, in the form of a clipping for a newspaper.

In a letter discussing railroad rates, G. W. Huling, Harvard, Neb., asks: "If the legislature of Nebraska pass laws restricting railroad rates in the state, can the railroads add excessive rates after a commodity crosses the Missouri river into Iowa, so as to neutralize all restrictive acts passed by Nebraska?" Yes; hence the necessity of action by Congress in the matter.

"Fiat Money," Dunkirk, N. Y., excepts to our strictures on fiat money, and states his reasons. He is doubtless honest, but is terribly mixed up. The gold currency is an example of money of full intrinsic value. The government stamp is but a guarantee of its fineness. Silver money is "fiat" to the extent that the intrinsic value of the silver in the dollar, for instance, is less than $1 in value. A government's credit are just like a man's. His promise to pay is good so long as he is known to be able and honest. If he gets in difficulty, his paper depreciates. Coin, intrinsically worth its face, is the only true money. Paper currency is only a promise to pay. A gold dollar is worth practically $1 anywhere among civilized man; a greenback dollar is not. These are the solid facts of the case, and all the hair-splitting reasoning as to what "money really is, etc., will not change them. Thousands of well meaning men, of limited information, are still the victims of the "greenback" idea; but it is fallacious, and a carrying of it out would result in financial ruin. Paper money tends to building up a "moneyed aristocracy," friend; a gold and silver currency is the enemy of speculation.

A friend at Lucky, Ala., writes us a strong letter on Southern political methods, and condemning the resolutions recently adopted by a meeting of "business men" (Democrats) of Montgomery, protesting against statements in Northern papers regarding Southern outrages. He says: "This is another one of their deceitful assertions published and circulated to keep the honest men of the North in the dark in regard to their nefarious schemes to once more gain complete control of this government and to gain the confidence of the honest men of the North."

In view of the efforts of the free traders in favor of English manufacturers, J. B. Harvey, Russell, Kas., proposes "an organization of all of the industrial elements of the country, in a co-operative industrial Union; such organization to extend to every county in which an organization can be secured, the members being loaned to the support of the organization by the purchase, sale and use only of American products, by and through this union."

C. C. S., Port Clinton, O., sends us an eloquent plea against placing Gen. Grant on the retired list, on the ground, generally stated, that Grant has had honors and emoluments heaped upon him; that he did his duty, but no more than any honorably discharged private did; and that nothing more should be done for him until every ex-soldier, his widow or orphans is put on a footing above dependence.

J. R. Frisbie, Anamosa, Iowa, takes only a partial view of the growth of the railroad monopolies. No party is directly chargeable with them. They would have grown up under any party. The benefits from railroads are so enormous that the iron ways would have extended over the land, under Democratic or Republican administration. It was sound policy, as we have before shown at length, to grant lands to roads in the West. Democratic Congresses began the system. The question now is as to the correction of their abuses. When a house is on fire, men do do not stop to dispute who set the blaze, but turn in to extinguish it. The Democrats have power to reform these abuses now, when they are more oppressive than ever. Will they do it?

W. E. Swantman, Plankinton, Dak., opposes woman suffrage, on the ground that "we have now as many ignorant voters as we can stand." He evidently does not think a woman capable of casting a ballot intelligently.

"H.," Johnson, Neb., commends the course of the BLADE regarding the extortion of Western railroads. His arguments have all been given in our various editorials on the subject. We are glad to hear from the farmers on the matter.

The "Extract from the Annals of Utopia," is respectfully declined.

LONDON LETTER.

A German Woman Who Is Trying to Prove Herself Queen Victoria's Eldest Daughter—A "High Personage's" Entertainment A Little Gossip.

Special Correspondence of the BLADE.

LONDON, Dec. 23, 1884.

Now that the slight interest caused by the release of the Tichborne claimant has subsided—Sir Roger being at present engaged in making the tour of the provincial concert halls—the sensation-loving Londoners are being regaled with stories of a new claimant—an entirely new departure this time. This latest seeker after notoriety and wealth is named Gusser, a German. It is said, by birth, who is turning all Paris upside down by her claim, which is nothing less than that she—Gusser—is the eldest daughter of the Queen of England. She says that soon after she was born, the Princess Royal, then, of course, a baby, was substituted for her, in order to please the late Prince Consort. Why that exchange could ever have been made, I have not yet heard; but there is something in connection with a morganatic marriage of Prince Albert that is put forth as the reason. It would seem difficult for any one who knows the history of the English court for the last 40 years or so to believe; but then, like every imposter, this lady has her followers, or rather, those who believe in her story; and she is about to publish a book, which, she says, will prove her to be what she says. To carry out her intentions she wants funds, and she has been supplied to a certain extent with what she requires. Her chief supporter, on whom she relies for assistance to carry out her plans and bring her case before the public of Great Britain, is said to be an American gentleman who has long resided in Paris. This may or may not be true; but it is the talk of her in this city. She is at present residing at a small private hotel, and, however absurd her claims may be, she conducts herself with the greatest propriety. She is about 45 years of age, and it is said, resembles Her Majesty very much. But this, as a matter of course, must be taken with a very large piece of the proverbial grain of salt.

IS IT THE PRINCE OF WALES?

One of the London weekly papers says that "there was a small party given the other evening when a certain 'high personage' was present. After dinner, when all the guests were assembled in the drawing-room, an old woman, dressed in a French costume with very short skirts, suddenly made her appearance, and one of the company being requested to play some lively opera-bouffe airs on the pianoforte, she proceeded to dance the *cancan*. She danced with much spirit and vivacity, not altogether, perhaps, as a modest old woman should, and, as usual, the 'high personage' was in shouts of laughter. At last she sat down amid a round of applause, and then a quadrille was formed, the old woman requesting the 'high personage' to be her partner. Although not the proper thing, he could not well refuse. After the quadrille she as suddenly disappeared, and people were wondering who she was, when the door was thrown open and in walked Lord ——. It needed but a glance, to see that he it was who had been masquerading as the ancient French damsel, and great was the merriment thereat. On the whole, when one reflects, it was not a very elevating sight.

"Lord —— is a man of 75, and, notwithstanding his age, is one of the "high personage's" most constant companions. There are some persons who accuse him of being a great toady, and if one might judge by the exploit just mentioned, the charge is not very untrue. Fancy a man of his age, and a prominent member of society, consenting to such an exhibition of want of dignity on his part, merely for the sake of amusing the 'high personage.' The lady at whose house this sort of ridiculous tomfoolery occurs every year for the delectation of the little slip, etc." is a woman of over sixty years of age, and she has always been very fat, and old-looking."

HIS INCOME.

The Prince of Wales, if he were the "high personage" referred to above, can afford to be amused and to pay right well for the amusement, inasmuch as he has from the English nation an annual allowance of £40,000. He receives also the revenues of the duchy of Cornwall about £79,000; as colonel of the rifle brigade, £288; as general, £2,475; as colonel of the 10th Hussars, £415; as colonel of artillery, £415; as field-marshal, £5,000; in addition to which there is annually paid to the Princess of Wales the sum of £10,000. The prince has also the use of sundry palaces, for the repairs of which, in 1879, the nation paid £6,450.

THE FUTURE LADY MACBETH.

A well known American speculator in matters theatrical has hastened over to Paris to secure the services for American theaters of Madame Clovis-Hugues, whose sensational shooting of her maligner is still the topic of conversation here and in Paris. This bold American wants the avenger of her honor to play Lady Macbeth, and he claims that she would, in that character, be the greatest success of the age. She is Sidonsuchin in air, aspect, and possibly disposition; has lived in an atmosphere of poetry and fine art, and has a natural bent for *le style noble*. With very little teaching she would make a first rate tragedy queen, and probably the finest Lady Macbeth that ever trod the boards of a theater since Mrs. Siddons retired from the stage. Her voice records with her person. It is strong, deep, and musical. Latterly, she was rather stout for perfect beauty. But it may be expected that seven weeks in a house of detention will render her more slim. Being a sculptress, she has an eye for picturesque attitudes. Her arms are finely shaped, and though she is not a coquettish woman, she thinks it a pity to conceal them, often wears high dresses, with gauze or lace sleeves, which only slightly veil them. If, after her acquittal, of which there is no doubt, she accepts the offer made her, America will have another opportunity of raving over an European celebrity.

SMALL TALK.

A lady living near Wellington college here, had an infant to be vaccinated, and, being anxious that the vaccine matter should be pure, was informed by the doctor that he had some from a grandchild of the premier. I could not think of such a thing," said the lady, "all our family are Conservatives, and I cannot allow the taint of Mr. Gladstone to be introduced into a child of mine."

At one of the swell restaurants here a large choir of men and boys give a concert from 6:30 to 9:30 during the regular dinner hour. Glees, part songs and madrigals make up the programme.

There is great excitement in the American colony in Paris on account of the betrothal of Miss Evelyn Mackay to Don Ferdinando Colonna, prince of Galatro, who belongs to the branch of the Stigliano Colonnas. The young man is good-looking, and about 27 years of age.

PAUL CHAPIUS.

The Political Situation in Virginia.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

Four years ago I wrote the BLADE concerning the fight here in Virginia between Literalism and Bourbonism, under the caption of "Virginia's Debt." Up to that time the Northern mind was ignorant of the true issues involved in that contest. Four years of partial victory on our part, followed by defeat brought about by the same methods that drove Virginia into the rebellion should, it seems to me, have awakened the loyal heart of the North in our behalf. But, wrapped up in the living issues of your own section, you passed on seeds of the terrible fight we loyal men of this State were sustaining, not only against the old, powerful aristocracy of this state, but that of the whole south, especially the cotton states, whose ruling class realized that the contest here in Virginia was of more significance than the ending of the war at Appomatox.

And here let me moralize a momeut. You of the north listened to the slanders of the Bourbon press against our cause, especially against our leaders. You gave force to those charges by referring to our party as Mahonites. You flattered yourselves that we were several decades behind you in issues and methods which to some extent was true. You regarded us as the plant tools of demagogues. Never for once did you realize that we were fighting the same battle that you had to fight 25 and 30 years ago. You forget you had a Garrison who was thrown in prison, and a Lovejoy who was slain. If this is not so, dead indeed was the Northern mind when Mahone alone stood the grandest figure-head of the age, in the Senate, the representative of his people) in not from there assisting us here in overthrowing the methods that at last stand triumphantly upon your necks as well as ours. Mahone saw this then, his people felt it; we, the humble rank-and-file wrote of it; but not until a master mind, not until Mr. Blaine, tells you the same thing do you heed the admonition.

Here in Scott county 24 years ago, one man, the writer of this, gave the only vote, and his first vote, for the immortal Lincoln. On November 4 last, we gave nearly 1,700 for Mr. Blaine, and 362 majority over Cleveland, all white men except probably 50 colored. And here it was in the mountains of Southwest Virginia that the bravest Confederates of the Southern army were recruited. These brave men, the rank and file, have joined hands with us, and are not ashamed to be called Republicans. These men to-day are arraigned, maligned and taunted a thousand times more than I am or any of us old Republicans, though once these men stood confronting us on many hard fought fields. They are the righteous Lots of this Southern Sodom to-day, and will yet be the refuge of liberty on this continent in years to come; so begin now, for God's sake, for your own sakes, to strengthen us here. The damnable usurpations of the Southern oligarchy, combining the upper and lower elements of the social fabric, demands resistance even to death, if needs be, ere our boasted liberty will forever be trampled out under a worse form of government than that of Rome under the decemviri.

Comrades of the Grand Army, Southern Democrats are not the South. They are not the bravest men that followed Lee and Jackson, in the ranks. They are the conscript press-gangs who wield the bull-whip and shot-gun; the cormorants that have feasted upon the honest middle class for a century; whose real fear is, not the poor negro, but the poor honest white man and his children who would soon crowd their worthless sons out of the honorable walks of life, if a free and open chance was given them.

D. S. HALE.

Hale's Mills, Scott Co., Va.

Northeastern Nebraska Items.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

The large crops in most parts of the land have depressed prices, but the numerous cattle and swine in this part have helped to keep corn up to from 18 to 20 cents, while in some of the southern central parts corn has been sold at half that price. This shows that farmers must keep more stock if they would prosper. The diversified lay of the land favors mixed farming and stock growing here. Broad valleys for hay land, gentle slopes for corn, and some broken uplands, well suited for pastures, with running water in abundance, gives Northeast Nebraska the very best region for stock operations. Ranches of from 640 to 1,000 acres, largely enclosed with barbed wire fences, are numerous. J. M. Stinton has several in Wayne county. On one rauche he had a 100-acre field of corn, the first crop, worked and tended by one man and three horses, which yielded over 5,000 bushels of corn. Nebraska will make a good show of her grain and fruit productions in New Orleans. N. Wecker, county commissioner, Pierce county, in February, 1880, got 1½ pounds of blue beam wheat from the United States patent office. His this year has from it 2,400 bushels of wheat. He has used some from year to year, but in no year has it yielded less than 33 bushels per acre. X.

[Don't write to us for this correspondent's address, nor send letters to be forwarded. They will be thrown into the waste basket. We cannot under ake the labor.—ED. BLADE.]

I have used DR. GRAVES' HEART REGULATOR and can truly say it has done me much good, given me entire relief from a distressing palpatation of the heart, —Mrs. Ella Haverhill, Mass. Free pamphlet of F. E. Ingalls, Cambridge, Mass. $1.00 per bottle.

Gen. Grant's Health—He is Engaged in Literary Work.

Gen. Grant's physician said Sunday night, in response to inquiries in regard to the General's health: "Gen. Grant consulted me early in the autumn about a pain in the side of his tongue, which rendered it painful to him to articulate and masticate his food. The General smoked cigars largely, and this seemed to irritate his tongue. We restricted him to two cigars a day, and he stopped smoking of his own accord. It is very remarkable this change was not followed by any disturbance of the nervous system or general irritation. He is improved locally, able to speak without pain, and his general appearance is improved in every respect. He is now occupied several hours a day in literary work, which he seems to enjoy. I think he is in better health than he has been since the accident of a year ago. He is still lame from the injury to his thigh, which has left great tenderness. He is unable to walk on account of the pain and feebleness, without the aid of a crutch or a stick. There is nothing that would justify the assertion that he is seriously ill, and he is not in a critical condition."

SHERMAN AND JEFF DAVIS.

Lamar, Vest and Harris Come to the Rescue of Their Old Chief—Ingalls, Sherman and Hawley Fight Gen. Sherman's Battles.

Gen. Sherman has written a long letter to Sec. Lincoln to be filed with the war records in the War department, explanatory of his recent charges against Jeff Davis in connection with the threat of the latter to use force against any state of the Southern Confederacy that should attempt to secede. Gen. Sherman says he had no expectation that his speech at the meeting of the Grand Army at St. Louis, at which the charges referred to were made against Davis, would be published, yet he does not shrink from a just responsibility for every word uttered upon that or any other occasion. Gen. Sherman closes his letter as follows:

"I have never been personally acquainted with Davis, because I was in California during the whole period of his administration of the War department, but during the civil war, and since, his name has been used universally as synonymous with treason and the cause of rebellion, with its lists of hundreds of thousands of the bravest of our land dead and mangled, with unnecessary waste and devastation of property, with an awful national debt, and with a pension roll of $60,000,000 at this very date. If I am prejudiced against him personally it arises from the fact that he more than any other living man brought reproach on the military academy and regular army with which he was associated by imparting the fair fame they had earned for liberty to their oath. He conspired with others as early as January, 1861, after Mr. Lincoln was fairly and constitutionally elected President of the United States, to destroy the very government which he had sworn to defend, and he did set up another government necessarily hostile to it, of which he became the head, and did whilst President of the Southern Confederacy change his "states rights principles," the very doctrine on which he had justified secession from the United States, and then opposed state sovereignty. These are plain, palpable facts not likely to be forgotten by the present generation or the next, if ever.

"I say, therefore, with full knowledge of the consequences, he enrolled his name with those of Arnold and Burr instead, as he might have done, with Washington and Lincoln. This is all I have to say at this time. Meantime the government will, I trust, go on and publish the records and correspondence of the war, both Union and Confederate, and I can await the result with perfect composure. The Grand Army of the Republic also with its 5,000 posts and 254,454 old Union soldiers will continue to meet, interchange their thoughts, sing their patriotic songs, and perpetuate the traditions of the war of the rebellion quite as important and quite as lasting as can be more formal documentary history. No nation can afford to put fidelity and treachery on a par and hope to survive, and that this government means to survive and perpetuate its invaluable advantages I have abundant faith. I will also append to this letter, copies of documents, one of which, "the secret" message of Mr. Davis of February 3, 1864, to the Confederate congress, has never before, to my knowledge, been published. Another is the original was captured and held by a friend who claims it as a trophy.

The Chair laid before the Senate a resolution, heretofore offered by Hawley, calling on the President for a copy of a historical statement concerning the public policy of the executive department of the Confederate States, filed at the war department by Gen. Sherman.

Harris said if Hawley thought any action of the Senate was proper with regard to the paper or papers referred to, he would not object to the call, but no such action was to be taken. Harris could see no object in the call for papers. They were in possession of the war department, and would appear in the rebellion record.

Harris had examined the papers at the war department. They consisted of a somewhat voluminous argument by Gen. Sherman of his side of the personal issue made through the newspapers between himself and Jefferson Davis.

Hawley had presumed the papers would find their way into publicity, and he had desired a complete, and not partial edition published.

Harris had not the slightest objection to the broadest publication of the papers, but saw no reason why they should be sent to the Senate to be merely printed as executive documents and then slumber there.

Hawley said the papers related to the last year of the war, and would not probably be published in the rebellion records for a couple of years to come.

Harris doubted the propriety of calling for the papers.

Vest regretted the introduction of the resolution—not that he would oppose the largest publication of the history of the Confederate States, but because the Senate would be making itself indirectly at least, a party to the controversy that had been going on in the public press. His feelings toward Gen. Sherman were of the kindest character, and he believed he was his personal friend.

The debate in the Senate on Hawley's resolution continued at some length, Monday, and became pretty warm before it closed. The participants, in addition to Sens. Hawley, Harris, George and Vest, were Sens. Sherman, Ingalls, Morgan, Conger and Lamar. Vest inquired whether it was manly to commit the Senate to one side of a personal controversy, when Davis could not be heard. Davis was to-day an old man, broken in fortune and health, living among people who honored him. He (Vest) had been a member of the Confederate Senate, and frequently opposed Davis's measures, but he believed, as an overwhelming majority of the Southern people believed, that Davis was as true and loyal to the cause he espoused as ever was wife to husband or a religious devotee to the God he worshipped.

George said the controversy was a personal one between two private citizens of the United States.

Conger disputed Davis' right to be called a citizen or in any relation on an equality to Gen. Sherman.

George was willing the controversy should be settled by history. He had no fear that the result would be adverse to the honor or patriotism of Jefferson Davis.

Morgan said it may be true that Jefferson Davis' political disabilities had been removed, but he was no less a man because of that. It was not less true that he was beloved by millions of people yet in the United States. He had been no more an enemy of the United States than many senators now on the floor of the United States Senate.

Ingalls said Jefferson Davis' name had never been mentioned in the senate without Morgan, Lamar and their associates endorsing him and declaring he was a man of honor and a patriot, and that millions of people loved him. So long as such remarks were indulged in it was in vain to declare the animosities engendered by the war had been buried forever. It did not sound well to have blazoned so constantly in our faces by members of the Senate the fact that Davis was a patriot and a man of honor, and that he was beloved by millions.

Ingalls said we had just witnessed the spectacle of an election of President of the United States by the votes of men who declared to-day Jefferson Davis was a man of honor and a patriot. He (Ingalls) had heard the senator from Missouri (Vest) frequently allude with something of apparent pride and satisfaction to the part he played in the politics of the Southern Confederacy. There was no occasion for such allusions. It did not concern the argument of questions before the Senate, when no appeal was made to partison feelings, for senators to rise one after another and dwell upon the fact that they had been members of the Confederate Senate, and that Jefferson Davis was beloved by the Southern people, and that he had been actuated by the sentiments of a man of honor and a patriot. Referring to Vest's allusion to his membership of the Confederate Senate, Ingalls remarked that so far as the state of Missouri was concerned, Vest had not been accredited to that Senate, as the state of Missouri had not been out of the Union. In the name of the loyal people of Missouri, Ingalls protested against the sentiments he had heard so often expressed by Vest. As to the immediate controversy under discussion, Davis had called Sherman a liar. That was the plain English of it. In any controversy between Davis and Sherman, Ingalls was for Sherman, and so, he said, would all the people of the country be.

Hawley did not coincide with the view that by passing his resolution the Senate would be taking sides in a private quarrel. Personally, however, he did not hesitate to declare that in the controversy between Jefferson Davis and Gen. Sherman, he (Hawley) was on Gen. Sherman's side all the time. He believed Gen. Sherman was on the right side—personally, politically and military, in the war for the Union.

Harris inquired what good would be accomplished by merely printing the paper referred to in the resolution.

Hawley said there was matter in it that in his mind established beyond doubt of controversy the fact that before the war there had been an elaborate conspiracy in Washington by which certain senators had decided upon the Confederate government, had appointed a committee of senators to go South to attend the preliminary steps for the formation, and agreed that others should remain here to prevent such legislation as might interfere with the success of the conspiracy. The matter under consideration was no more a personal quarrel than the four years' war for the Union had been a personal quarrel.

Vest said Gen. Sherman had stated he would make his reply to Davis through the war department. Of course, therefore, the paper was part of a personal controversy.

Sherman, after reciting the circumstances of the controversy, said he did not desire to wound the feelings of an old man, "but, great God," said he, "will it ever be disputed in this country of ours, at any time within a thousand years, that in the war and before the war, Jefferson Davis was a conspirator and traitor to his county? Never, I trust."

Sherman felt compelled to enter his most solemn protest against Davis being treated as a patriot.

Sherman said that from a feeling and personal delicacy growing out of his relationship to one of the parties to the controversy, he would have preferred not speaking on it; but some senators seemed to treat is as a controversy between two citizens. It would be a matter of surprise to Gen. Sherman that it was of that character. Gen. Sherman has stated he did not know Davis personally. Gen. Sherman had by invitation attended the reunion of an army post, and in the course of some impromptu remarks, as reported by the newspapers perhaps correctly enough, said he regarded Davis not only as a rebel, but as a conspirator, and that he had seen certain letters and papers while on his march through Georgia which tended to show that Davis, while the war was progressing, had abandoned his state's rights convictions and had become practically dictator in the South. Gen. Sherman had by no means been alone in the opinion that there was no personal matter of controversy between Davis and Gen. Sherman. Gen. Sherman simply insisted on the right to class Davis as a conspirator and traitor. Did that make a personal quarrel between the two men? Far from it. He (the speaker) might as well be said in the same way to make a personal quarrel with the descendants of Benedict Arnold by repeating historical facts. Davis had written a bitter article, not addressed to Gen. Sherman, but substantially giving him the lie. Gen. Sherman did not respond to that article by any letter to Davis or to any newspaper. He did the very opposite. He was still in every sense an officer of the army, even though on the retired list. He was subject to the President's order as an army officer, therefore he probably gave to his military superior reasons for every assertion he had made. This he was bound to do. When an officer of the army, whether retired or not, had any insult put upon him or anything which, among gentlemen, would reflect upon his character, his honor, integrity, he was bound by his calling to make an explanation to the proper authority to show the imputation on his honor was not just. There was, therefore, no personal controversy between Jefferson Davis and Gen. Sherman, but there were some statements of a very striking character involved which ought to be put on the official records of the government. Why, Sen. Sherman asked, should not these papers be printed? Do they not show the motives that led to the great civil war? Did they not tend to show the probable termination of the rebellion, even if the United States arms had not suppressed it, to be the eventual establishment of a despotism in the Southern states? Whatever the motives and causes of the war are called in question, I must assert it was a causeless rebellion, entered upon with bad motives, and all men who led in that movement were traitors to this country of ours.

Lamar characterized Sherman's statement of the controversy as marked by flagrant inaccuracies as to the issue between Jefferson Davis and Gen. Sherman. He (Lamar) did not impugn Gen. Sherman's veracity, but insisted that he had been misinformed about Davis. The South, Lamar said, had surrendered upon all questions dividing the sections, had given up the right of the people to secede from the Union, and had given up the right of each state to judge for itself of infractions of the constitution and the mode of redress. It had fought for its own view, and had lost; but no man should in his presence call Jefferson Davis a traitor without his (Lamar's) responding with stern and emphatic denial.

He had no objection to any publication that would throw light upon the true character of the movement for the separation of the states of the South from those of the North. According to publications in the press, the question was not merely that the secession of the Southern states was the result of a conspiracy. That question, as the senator from Ohio (Sherman) had frequently remarked, was a question of historical truth, and was to be ascertained and decided by the facts of history, as read by future generations. Whether it was a conspiracy of a few ambitious individuals or the uprising of the whole people to preserve, as they thought, their autonomy and their institutions, were questions which Lamar was willing should be remitted to the verdict of posterity. No senator had kinder feelings for Gen. Sherman or more respect for his military sagacity or genius than had Mr. Lamar; but Gen. Sherman had been betrayed by his feelings, and by misinformation, into an allegation and charge against Jeff Davis which he could not sustain, which no man could ever sustain, and which was not truth. That allegation was that he saw a letter from Jeff Davis asserting that if the South should secede from the Confederacy he would put it down by military coercion—coerce the inaugurate government. There was no question of historical fact in relation to the character of that movement as between Davis and Sherman. It was outside of the record, and when the senator from Ohio said there was no personal controversy between these two gentlemen, his statement came in direct conflict with the assertions of Gen. Sherman himself, who, when interviewed by a representative of the press in St. Louis with regard to Davis' denial, refused to make a statement, saying it was a matter between Sherman and Davis, and not a matter for the press. Its personality was established by Gen. Sherman himself, and no discussion that could be brought up in the Senate could throw light on the naked, bold issue of the fact, whether Gen. Sherman saw a letter written by Jeff Davis to a senator now in the United States Senate, saying he would coerce the South if it should attempt to secede from the Confederacy. "I assert," he said Lamar, "that no such letter was in existence, and, in my opinion, no such letter was ever written. When the truth comes before Sen. Sherman that he has made an assertion even against a political enemy which he cannot sustain, it would comport better with his high character and position to acknowledge inadvertent and unintentional injustice than to change the issue before the American people, and raise a question as to the character of the secession movement."

As a reason for his belief, Lamar said he had been throughout a friend of Davis, and had been often in consultation with him, and if Davis varied his opinion from the beginning of the secession controversy to the end as to the importance of maintaining the movement upon the people engaged in it, and not upon any force, his most intimate friends were ignorant of any such revolution of opinions. No man had stood more firmly than Davis by the doctrine that it should be a government based upon consent and not force, through all the eventful scenes of the struggle.

Vest said the senator from Kansas (Ingalls) could indulge in no debate without becoming personal. That senator was a verbal horror and an oral terror. One of the offenses known to the old common law was that of being a common scald, the punishment for which was ducking. He (Vest) would not, however, prescribe such punishment for the senator from Kansas. The Confederate States, Vest continued, were dead; the soldiers who fought for the Confederacy and those who fought for the Union slept side by side, having illustrated with matchless deeds of valor and heroism both sections. Above them might be put the ancient epitaph:

"The knights are dust, their swords are rust,
Their souls with God, we trust,"

and with that there should be an end of an acrimonious discussion of the issues involved in that terrible conflict. But the senator from Kansas sought to impute to senators disloyalty to the oath they had taken to the constitution of the United States. The Senator had said that he (Vest) had been in the habit of alluding in a spirit of boastfulness to the fact that he had been a member of the Confederate Senate. It was not true. The records would show that he had made such allusions upon only two occasions —once in his eulogy upon Hill, with whom he has served in the Confederate Senate, and again to-day, in order to assume a full share of the responsibility which was sought in certain quarters to be put on Davis. The Senator from Kansas had said that he (Vest) was never accredited to the Confederate Senate. He (Vest) had received his credentials from a governor of the state of Missouri, elected by a majority of 35,000 in a time of profound peace, and his election was by a legislature elected in time of peace. He would say now to the Senator from Kansas that his (Vest's) credentials in the Confederate Senate, as also those to the United States Senate, had never been disputed by his own constituents, and the Senator from Kansas would know what he meant.

At 2 o'clock the matter went over till to-day.

The wages of employes in the Contoocook cotton mill, Pennacook, N. H., are reduced 10 per cent.

The Prohibition Campaign.

The National committee met in Chicago, Hopkins offered a resolution for the committee to [illegible] several political questions. Johnson opposed it, and Harney opposed it. The Circuit Court petitioned the [illegible] for his father's estate [illegible] marriage, it is stated, has brought on the trouble.

The Connecticut legislature has organized. The house elected W. Edgar Simonds speaker. The legislature will meet in joint convention for the election of governor and other state officers. The Republican candidates at the late election will be chosen.

Gov. Pattison, of Pennsylvania, says the liquor question has reached the point where the decent, law abiding people have become aroused to the necessity of effective action, there being 6,345 licensed drinking places in Philadelphia alone, one saloon for every 125 persons, counting men, women and children.

Pres. Woodbury, of the Denver chamber of commerce, has issued invitations to all chambers of commerce and boards of trade in favor of free coinage, unlimited coinage of silver, to send delegates to the national silver convention to be held in Denver the 28th inst. Gov. Grant appends his approval to this call.

Gov. Frederick Robie, of Maine, was inaugurated Thursday. In his message he pays tribute to the memory of ex-Gov. Israel Washburne. The governor calls attention to the large expenditure of money in state and national elections, recommends the adoption of civil service rules and the appointment of a committee to consider the best methods of preventing corruption and bribery.

Emma H. Wallace, of Ohio, claiming to be the direct descendant of Anneke Jans, has begun suit in the United States court at New York against Rev. Morgan Dix and the corporation of Trinity church. She claims she is entitled to one-thirtieth of the estate of Anneke Jans, and asks that the defendants be compelled to make an accounting and that they be enjoined from making any transfers or leases until the court has the matter.

The widow of Mark Hopkins intends to build in Great Barrington, Mass., the most expensive residence in the United States. The cost of the house and grounds will be $5,000,000. The house will be built of blue stone from the quarry she owns, and work will begin as soon as spring opens. Work at the quarry will be carried on day and night. Electric lights will be used for night operations. One thousand men will be employed three years.

The two houses of the Connecticut legislature met in joint convention Thursday. Soon after 10 Harris was sworn in he delivered his inaugural address. The message reported the funded debt of the state at $4,225,000, a reduction of $315,000 since 1883. Savings bank deposits have increased $2,516,000. He recommends these banks be forbidden from buying national bank stock, and called on the legislature to request congress to act on the electoral bill.

News is received from Cottonwood, Indian Territory, of a cowardly murder committed there. It appears there was trouble between James. Robert and Isaac Walker, brothers, and Wm. Simmons, the latter being accused of improper conduct toward Robt. Walker's wife. Tuesday night, while the parties were quietly talking the matter over, Simmons being unarmed, James Walker drew a pistol and shot Simmons, killing him. A posse is in pursuit of the murderer.

One of the largest verdicts recorded in the courts of this country in recent years in a suit for damages for personal injuries, was rendered in Philadelphia Friday in the case of F. Marion Davis against the Philadelphia iron and steel company, the plaintiff receiving a verdict in his favor for $20,000. Davis, in 1878, while working in the company's mill, was struck on the head with an iron clamp which had become detached from a revolving fly-wheel. His skull was crushed and his capacity for work permanently impaired.

BUSINESS MATTERS.

Stix Bros., Heman & Co., of New York, manufacturers of cloaks, have filed an assignment to H. Rice. Preferences, $50,000.

Moore & Wilson, straw board manufacturers, Waterford, N. Y., have assigned; assets estimated at $40,000; liabilities $16,000.

The schedules of George Lisner, toy dealer, New York, show liabilities of $91,000; nominal assets, $98,000; actual assets, $24,000.

Opdyke & Co., the New York banking house lately failed, announce they have completed arrangements to pay in full. The assignee will pay a dividend of 75 per cent. almost immediately, and the remainder in a short time.

The Bank of Augusta, Ga., a bank chartered by the state many years before the war, has made an assignment to Harper Bros., attorneys, for the benefit of creditors. Capital stock, $150,000. Depositors will be paid in full.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* from the leading business centers throughout the United States contain in many instances evidence of an improved feeling in commercial circles, there is little basis for this so far as is learned, and it is undoubtedly due to the advance in wheat which now appears to have shown sufficient strength to prevent a reaction. The point where the rush upward began starting the iron works in several cities, has also stimulated a better feeling. The dry goods market at the larger distributing centres is firmly held and there is some activity reported.

The general trade situation is still far from satisfactory, although renewed purchases in a few lines suggest to those most interested the likelihood of material improvement in the spring demand. The industrial situation is less favorable, despite the opening of the iron and steel works at Pittsburg, Chicago, Cleveland and elsewhere. At Trenton 500 pattern workers are resisting the reduction in wages and 1,500 anthracite coal miners have been discharged through the closing of several collieries. A ten per cent. reduction will go into force on the 19th inst.

The First Steamboat.

The Trenton (N. J.) *Times* publishes the result of search among old state records, showing that Robert Fulton was not the inventor of the first steamboat, and that the first steamboat was launched on the Delaware river, near Trenton, in 1781 — 20 years before Fulton's steamer Clearmont appeared on the Hudson. John Fitch was the inventor, and ran the steamboat. The New Jersey legislature, on March 2, 1786, received a petition presented by Fitch, setting forth his invention, and asking for a committee to investigate it and grant him encouragement. An act in accordance with the petition passed a few days later, 21 years before Fulton's boat was launched. Fitch then organized a company and constructed his steamboat. It made four miles an hour. The legislature then gave him the sole right of steam navigation, and when Fitch died in Kentucky, in 1798, the New Jersey legislature assigned his rights to his heirs.

DR. R. C. FLOWER
OF
BOSTON, MASS.,
MAKING A WESTERN TOUR

An Opportunity for the Sick to Consult this Distinguished Physician Close to Their Own Home.

The readers of the BLADE are so well acquainted with Dr. R. C. Flower's name in connection with his marvelous practice and almost miraculous cures, that the mere mention of the fact that this distinguished physician of the East, has arraigned an extensive tour through the West, that he may see and consult many of his patients and correspondents who are unable to go to Boston, must give pleasure to many of our readers by affording them an opportunity of a personal interview at some point close to their own home. Dr. Flower will be at Pittsburgh, Pa., Monongahela Hotel, Friday and Saturday, January 16 and 17.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Grand Hotel, Monday, January 19.

Louisville, Ky., Galt House, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 20 and 21.

Indianapolis, Ind., New Denison Hotel, Thursday, January 22.

Toledo, Ohio, Burnett Hotel, Friday and Saturday, January 23 and 24.

Milwaukee, Wis., Plankinton Hotel, Monday and Tuesday, January 26 and 27.

Davenport, Iowa, Kimball Hotel, Wednesday, January 28.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Grand Hotel, Thursday, January 29.

Burlington, Iowa, Duncan Hotel, Friday, January 30.

Creston, Iowa, Summit Hotel, Saturday, January 31.

Des Moines, Iowa, Kirkwood Hotel, Monday, February 2.

Webster City, Iowa, Grand Central Hotel, Tuesday, February 3.

Sioux City, Iowa Hotel, St. Elmo, Wednesday, February 4.

INDUSTRIAL.

Carnegie Bros. & Co.'s Union iron mill, Pittsburg, will resume in all departments, giving employment to several hundred men.

The Douglass furnace, Sharpsville, Pa., which has been in blast continuously for five years, has been banked, on account of the scarcity of orders.

The cigar makers at Henry Feltman's factory, Covington, Ky., went out on a strike because of a reduction of $1 per 1,000 on all classes of work.

Cleveland had in the iron and steel trade in 1884, 157 establishments, 14,087 men employed, capital invested $31,547,000. The total value of the year's product was $35,202,5000.

Notices of a ten per cent. reduction are posted in all the mills at Fall River, to take effect the 19th inst. The Spinners' union will hold a special meeting to consider the situation.

Agents of the Hocking Valley mines are at Lehchburg, Va., securing negroes to take the place of striking miners. Seventy-five left Tuesday, and others are secured. They sign a one-year contract before leaving.

The National Tube Works at McKeesport, Pa., having completed its repairs, will resume operations Monday. There will be a general reduction of about ten per cent. in all departments. The works give employment to 2,500 men.

The O'Hara glass table ware works, Pittsburg, which has been shut down for some time past on account of the dullness of trade, will resume Monday, giving employment to 300 men. Workmen at the nut factory of Wm. Charles and those engaged at the McMurty factory have been notified of a reduction in wages of from ten to fifteen per cent. The men refused to accept and both establishments were closed.

Last week Gray & Wildman, the largest boiler manufacturers in East Saginaw, Mich., reduced wages, paying men $2.50 who had been receiving $3.75 and a corresponding reduction of 25 cents a day on cheaper help. The men refused to work. Monday Robert Wildman, another manufacturer, announced the same reduction and the men quit, about twenty men in all. The proprietors say they have some work on hand but plenty of time to do it in, and they will not be likely to yield.

Under the heading of "A Further Reduction of Wages Means Starvation," Sec. Howard issued an address to the spinners of Fall River and neighborhood, announcing a special meeting for Saturday night. In his address Sec. Howard asserts that wages have been reduced 50 per cent. since 1874; that the price paid for spinning warp in a pair of mules of 1,200 spindles is 30 cents for 1,000 skeins, against 38 cents paid for the same work in Oldham, England, and that 56 hours' labor per week only is required of spinners in England, against 66 hours in this country. Labor, he says, is strong enough to make itself respected, but organization is essential. The secretary calls upon every spinner to be present.

The Utah Commission.

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this department will please observe the following rules:
1. Write "Household" in the upper left hand corner on the envelope.
2. Give real name and post office address—not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.
3. Write only on one side of the paper. Write PLAINLY. Do not interlineate. Write BRIEFLY.

WOMAN'S WORK.

WHAT CAN SHE DO?

XIII.

It is but a few years comparatively since the very word "book agent" was the signal for the taking in of the latch string and the assuming of the stern be off-with-yourself expression which might sometimes be put into words. Very frequently were the doors shut in the face of the unlucky man or woman who called at an untoward moment to show his volume, no matter how good that was, and there was a general sort of suspicion that a book agent, especially if a woman, was not quite what she ought to be, or she would not go around into men's offices and business places to offer her wares.

Happily a change has come, and the selling of books by subscription is as legitimate and respectable as any other occupation. A great many useful and valuable works are sold in no other way, and those who desire to buy are glad to have them brought to their hand without the trouble of looking them up. A large part of this labor is now done by women, and a very remunerative employment they find it to be, if they are fitted for the undertaking.

Perhaps some of you have read the story told by the publisher, Mr. Derby. A lady who was a valued friend of his family was a teacher in Brooklyn, and while she had a fair salary, it did not suffice for her needs. Conversing with him one day in regard to the matter, he suggested that she should try canvassing for "Appleton's Cyclopedia." She was horror stricken at the very idea. It was impossible that she should place herself among those who were regarded with such a sentiment of aversion as always to draw forth some whimsical remark. Mr. Derby proved to her that by helping to sell good books she was doing as useful a work as when teaching school. Her situation was given up, and she began in Brooklyn, finally going into the mining regions of Pennsylvania. Mr. Derby says that she has never netted less than $5,000 a year, and she does not work more than eight or nine months. She is considered by the Appletons as one of their best canvassers, not only selling rapidly, but being extremely methodical in her way of keeping accounts.

Of course this case is exceptional. Not many can hope to make so large a sum, and yet the fact is true that a handsome income can be realized if the business is conducted properly. There are many women who earn from $15 and $20 a week up to $50 and even more, but if only $10 were the average it would be better than many other occupations which are quite as exhausting and in many cases as disagreeable. If you take it up as a business and stick to it, with any sort of adaptability to the work, you are sure to succeed.

Now as to the qualifications. There are several which are very important. It is necessary to possess a fair degree of physical strength. The exercise that must be taken is almost continuous. You will be obliged to go up and down stairs a great many times during the day. No matter what the weather is, you must face it boldly, just as men do. You must expect to be sometimes caught in a storm, to wade through the snow, to walk with the mercury at zero, or when it is up in the nineties.

While all this is true, I do not mean by spreading it before you in detail to deter any delicate woman not fatally diseased from entering the field. I have known those who seemed in an absolute decline, women whose friends looked upon them as almost if not quite doomed, those suffering from nervous exhaustion, take up this occupation and regain health and vigor. It was the constant exercise in the open air, the going from place to place with the mind occupied with the work that made the change. I have one in my mind now who came to me last year, a woman in the prime of life, thoroughly successful in her work, and strong as most women. She had been a broken down school teacher with a harassing cough that was wearing her away, when she began canvassing. She had become what I saw her.

You must have perseverance. You may not be successful at first, but keep up good courage and work away. Here is where so many women fail. They begin, expecting that the good results will be at once apparent. If not, they grow discouraged and cease the effort. No doubt many will read what I have said in regard to the wages to be earned, and will commence book canvassing with zeal and energy, but if they do not—even though perfectly inexperienced—make as much as old hands at the business from the first, they will give up the attempt in disgust. Men do not work in that way. They expect to serve an apprenticeship at any kind of employment before they can hope to receive full pay. They know they have got to learn *how* to succeed, before the full measure of success can be theirs. Then, too, if you expect to do well, you must work continuously. This taking a few days off to make a dress, to pay a visit, or to do something else which is entirely disconnected with your business is not only exasperating to your publisher but a positive injury to yourself and the future of your undertaking. Take a vacation when the proper time rolls around, but let it be in the dull season which always comes sometime in the year to every occupation.

You must have a good command of yourself and thereby be able to hold your temper under control. This is a necessity. There will be many times when you will not be greeted pleasantly, but you must meet frowns with smiles. Your business "push" will very likely be called "impudence" but you must not care for that, at least you may not for to be a lady because some one else does. You must not be nervous about going into stores or offices, any where that your business calls you, but it is to be done quietly and with good nature, while, at the same time you are to know how to repel undue familiarity and preserve your own self-respect. Never be cross because people do not buy what you are offering.

This brings me to the next, and perhaps, the most important requisite for a successful canvasser. You need to be a good judge of human nature in order to know how to approach people. This involves what is called tact. You must try to call at the right hours. If you see that your call is inopportune, withdraw at once and go again. Have pleasant words for the children. That is the way to a mother's heart and often to her purse. Never be pert or obtrusive. If you make a study of humanity you will see, almost at a glance, how to win the attention of those to whom you want to sell. Many a book agent has, by her tact, won her success against an emphatic "no" in the beginning.

Now another thing, and I do not want you to misunderstand me. Be careful to make a good appearance. I do not mean that you are to dress extravagantly or beyond your means, but believe me, a pretty, tasteful attire, hair arranged neatly and becomingly, gloves without holes, shoes brushed nicely,—all of these things have their influence in giving you a pleasant reception. A lady I knew well, started out in this work with the most anxious desire to succeed. In fact, success meant everything to her. She failed and I knew she would. With intelligence, a quiet way, a pleasant voice, and enough experience in the world to understand people, she yet repelled confidence and invited refusal by her careless dress, and more than all by the untidy arrangement of her sorrow-whitened hair, locks of which were sticking out in every direction and hanging down from under her bonnet upon her shoulders. You may say that people do not care from whom they buy so long as they get what they want, and that is true, but some one who presents an agreeable appearance is far more likely to persuade them that they want some special thing than one who does not. The same thing is true of other occupations, though perhaps in a less degree. In this one, the great point is to gain a good-natured hearing.

Of course it is important to have a good book from a reputable publishing house. That it shall be of the very highest order of literary merit is not a necessity, but it must be something taking, something that is useful and that has the charm of novelty. It is very easy to find such if one goes about it in the right way. Look out that you do not get hold of these reproductions from old, worn-out plates. You may sell a few, but people will soon discover their worthlessness, and your occupation will be gone. If you do not know anything you want to canvass for, write to some good publishing house, and ask them what subscription works they have on hand for agents to handle. You can judge something from their description of the character of the books, and make your choice accordingly. Women, it is said, are more successful with works of a religious character, or those peculiarly fitted for the family, because that brings them to those of their own sex and into homes rather than into business places.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Window Curtains.—Get two widths of cheese cloth the length des red for the window. Turn down a hem three inches wide for the front and across the bottom. Catch it down with herring-bone stitch made with gold or cherry colored silk, or crewel. Upon the hem put sprays of autumn leaves of darned work. This is very easily done in this way: Put long stitches from the point to the stem of the leaves, then darn back and forth from the sides to the midrib, going in and out as you do in darning a hole in a stocking. Do not catch into the cloth. After having finished the darning outline in chain stitch the leaf with the color you have used in it. The leaves must be in different colors, chosen according to the good taste of the worker. Odd leaves can be scattered over the body of the curtain and the effect is excellent. The curtains should be hung upon poles.

If so much work cannot be done the border can be left plain, and the body of the curtain be embroidered over with rings in chain stitch, two or three overlapping each other, usually two one of the gold-colored silk, and the other of red or blue. Crewels may be used instead of the silk. If care has been taken to get silks or crewels that will not fade, the curtains will do up nicely.

Dust Cloth Pocket.—Cover a palm leaf fan smoothly on both sides with a small figured cretonne, including the handle. Put a full pocket across the front. Have satin ribbon of bright color, an inch wide, and put a bow near the top of the pocket, and also a bow and ends with loop at the end of the handle to hang it up by.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; cl ch st, close chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, crossed treble stitch; o n t st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Antique Lace.—Cast on 17 stitches. 1st row—s 1—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 3—o—n—o twice—n—o twice—n—o twice—n. 2d row—s 1—k 1—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2. 3d row—s 1—k 1—o—n—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 1 st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Antique Lace.—Cast on 17 stitches. 1st row—s 1—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 3—o—n—o twice—n—o twice—n—o twice—n. 2d row—s 1—k 1—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2. 3d row—s 1—k 1—o—n—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 1 st. 4th row—Cast off 3—k 6—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2. 5th row—s 1—k 1—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 1—o—n—o twice—n—o twice—n—o twice—n. 6th row—s 1—k 1—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2. 7th row—s 1—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 3—o—n—k 9. 8th row—Cast off 3—k 6—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2. 9th row—s 1—k 1—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 2—o—n—o twice—n—o twice—n—o twice—n. 10th row—s 1—k 1—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2. 11th row—s 1—k 1—o—n—k 2—o—n—k 1—o—n—k 9. 12th row—Cast off 3—k 6—p 1—k 6—p 1—k 2—WILDWOOD.

Mittens.—"Independent" sends a request for mittens, and as I have just knit a pair and think them real pretty, I would like to tell her, through the HOUSEHOLD, how I knit them. I took the directions out of the BLADE over a year ago, but there was a mistake in it. I have knit a good deal of such work, and the following is as I have knit mine: Cast on 22 stitches on a needle. 1st row—round—k 9—p 2—k 9—p 2—and repeat all round. 2d row—s 1—k 1—pull two one you slipped over—k 1—k 5—n—p 2—and repeat all the way round. 3d row—s 1—k 1—pull slipped one over the knitted one—k 5—n—p 2—and repeat all round. 4th row—k 1—t t o—k 1—t t o—k 1—t t o—k 1—p 2—and repeat all round. 5th row—knit all plain except the two purled stitches, and purl them as before. This completes the pattern. Now repeat until you have the calf the desired length, then there must be just five stitches between purls; knit three rounds plain except the two stitches you purl. Purl these as before. Now you are ready for the hand. Knit the palm of the hand and thumb plain. I knit three rows of shells and four seams up the back of mine. Narrow off the end as even as possible, and you will have a real pretty mitten. They are prettier knit with two colors. If any one tries this, please report how they like it, and if the directions are not plain enough, if they will send me a stamped, self-addressed envelop, I will make them plainer.—MRS. C. M. GRANTHAM, Alanthus, Gentry county, Mo.

Warm Mittens.—I would say to "Independence" I have just finished a pair of very pretty mittens. Have had mittens knit with shells in back, do not like them, the shells cause the mitten to be too thin for winter wear. I tried the following plan and am pleased with the result: First set stitches sufficient to make mitten the proper size for hand (better to be a little tight at first.) First stitch, purl or in other words the first stitch just like the seam stitch in a stocking; next stitch plain, third purl, so on until the wrist is long enough. I make my mitten about as long in wrist as a 6-button glove. Now place 33 stitches on to one needle for the back of mitten. When you knit the 33 stitches take the first 3 on to a hair pin, then knit next three plain, now take the three off of hair pin on to right hand needle. This makes "twist stitch." Purl as above directed the next or 7th stitch, the 8th stitch knit plain, the 9th purl; next 6 knit as first 6. The 10th plain, 17th purl, 18th plain; next 6 as first 6 on needle, 25th plain, 26th purl, 27th plain, next 6 on needle and first 6 on needle.

All stitches on other two needles knit plain; widen and narrow for thumb on one of the last named needles. Now you have knit one round as above directed; knit 6 rounds plain and the 7th round you knit the 33 stitches as you did the first round after you had finished the wrist. If you follow the direction your mitten will have each 4 rows of twist on the back, be plain inside of hand and the thumb will be plain. Keep 33 stitches for back of mitten from wrist to time to narrow off, then narrow the 6 twist stitches down to 4, from 4 to 2. Narrow the needles with plain stitches as you would an old style mitten. Please let me hear how you like 'em.—KITTY CLING.

Now that the holidays are over we hope the friends of the HOUSEHOLD will send descriptions of the many pretty little articles they have made or received, and which can be manufactured by the lovers of fancy work among its members. They can help each other and the Editor very much in this way.—ED.

Correspondence.

"HEAR WHAT THE LORD WILL SPEAK."—I have a word for you just now and a query to put: Sometimes when you kneel in prayer does a desire to say nothing surge over you—just a longing possess you to simply kneel and rest, or think? Then you can understand me and the comfort I found in a few lines from dear Francis Havergal on the subject.

Have you reproached yourself as lacking earnestness and ardor, and have you felt ashamed to think you were before the throne as a petitioner and your speech came not? Have you then pulled yourself up as from sloth and dreaming, and tried to concentrate your mind upon your prayers?

Now hear what our beautiful Havergal has to say about these moods and spells of silence:

"We pour unto our hearts and tell Him all the needs, all the sins, all the joys and all the sorrows, till the very telling seems an answer, it brings such a sense of relief. It is very sweet and comfortable to do this. But this is only half-communion; and perhaps we miss a great deal of blessing, by being content with this one-sided audience."

Only half-communion, my friend. Then we are not to be forever pleading; we may worship and adore, we may simply bask in the soft repose of His love without feeling we are irreverent or rude, and it is not desirable that we only present ourselves with either prayer, praise or petition. Hear again what the clear-eyed saint and lovely writer has to say:

"We should use another "now," and say. Let my lord, the King, now speak. We expect Him to speak at some time, but not literally and actually now, while we kneel before him. And therefore we do not listen, and we do not hear what He has to say to us.

Sunday He has more to say to us than we to Him, and yet we never wait to see! We rush away as soon as we have had our say, and vaguely expect Him to send His answers after us somehow and somewhere, but not then and there.

What wonder if they have not yet reached us!

Had Mary talked to the Lord Jesus all the time she sat at His feet she would not have heard his word.

We should not pray less, but listen more.

We may miss the sweetest whispers of His love by not saying, speak Lord, and by not wishing ourselves to "hear what the Lord God will speak."

We cannot hear His "still small voice" during a torrent of noisy, impatient, hurried petition.

We must "let the thing now speak"; not our own hearts, our wandering thoughts, not the world, not the tempter,—they must be silenced with holy determination.

He has many a blest surprise for us in thus listening. We may come very diffidently, and find He has many things to say to us.

"Our own beloved Master hath many things to say;
Look forward to His teachings, unfolding day by day;
To whispers of His spirit, while resting at His feet,
To glowing revelation, to insight clear and sweet."

These quoted lines, to me, are full of richness. By them I find, through them I find, that the calm and peaceful quiet that steals upon me often when at prayer is not a weakness, is not a sign of an absent mind, but is the right and reverent attitude the spirit assumes while waiting on the Lord.

A few more thoughts from this precious Havergal and I am through:

She speaks of our working with and for our king, the Lord of Glory.

"Anywhere and everywhere we may dwell with the king for his work; it may be among hedges of all sorts, hindrances in all directions; it may be, furthermore, with our hands full of all manner of pottery for our daily task.

No matter! The king who placed us there will come there and dwell with us. The hedges are all right, or He would soon do away with them, and what seems to hinder our way, may be for its very protection; as for the pottery, since that is what He has seen fit to put in our hands, it is for the present His work.

The dwelling and the working must go on together. We are to dwell with the King for His work; but we will see to it that it shall be for a great deal besides—for a continual reward according to his own heart, and out of His royal bounty for peace, for power, for love, for gladness, for likeness to himself.

Laborers together with God! Working together with Him! The Lord working with us; admitted into divine fellowship of work! Will not this thought ennoble every thing He gives us to-day, even if it is among plants and hedges! Even the pottery will be grand.

"Be strong all ye people of the land and work," saith the Lord, "for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts!"

I am a great admirer of Frances Havergal's writings, and here in short space I have given you the substance of two of her most touching sermons. RALPH DOUGLAS.

Quincy, Ill.

HOWELL COUNTY, MO.—To any one wishing a cheap home in a mild and healthful climate, I would say try this county. It is situated midway in the state and one of the southern tier of counties. Being located on the southern slope of the Ozark mountains renders the climate milder than other regions of the same latitude not shielded by mountains. The country is finely watered and well adapted for stock raising, fruit growing and agricultural purposes generally. The timber is white, black, post and Spanish oak and hickory. Wild land costs from $1.25 to $3 per acre. Improved farms $5 to $30. Lands must be cleared before plow at a cost of from $1.50 to $3 per acre. There are 90,000 acres of land subject to homestead and pre-emption. Population of the county is estimated at 15,000. Taxes are reasonably low. Political parties are about equally strong. People are warm hearted here and all new comers will receive a cordial welcome.—W. W. Y.

WEST PLAINS is the county seat and situated on the Kansas City, Springfield & Memphis railroad. Has a population of 1,500. There are four church buildings, Methodist, Methodist South, Presbyterian and Christian—all good substantial buildings. The Baptists contemplate building soon. There is a large new court-house at a cost of $18,000, and a commodious school-house at a cost of over $8,000.

I should think it would be a good place for almost anybody but physicians. It is too healthy for one to make a fortune in that profession, and there are half a dozen here already. There is no photographer. There are two newspapers—one Republican, one Democratic.—MRS. J. A. T., West Plains, Howell Co., Mo.

A CHAPTER FOR GIRLS.—Don't be frivolous girls. Life is too short to spend a week on a piece of tatting that no person in their senses would give ten cents for. Perhaps life holds some grander possibilities for you. Although fancy work is very pleasant for a pastime, do not let it absorb the hours that should be spent in the cultivation of your minds. Just at this time a new era seems to be opening. An innovation has been made, and it is now possible for a woman to do the work or engage in the business for which her capacity is adapted. Women may claim equality with man, not in physical strength, but intelligence. Skill and tact are not the attributes of the masculine mind alone, as was once supposed.

Childishness, or in other words ignorance, are not the qualities that stand the test of time. A lover may be fond of that quality termed artlessness, but a husband is pleased to find in the one whom he has chosen, a companion that is capable of understanding the realities of life, a person who can not only be practical but sometimes, even wise in a selfish, worldly mind. My word for it, if ever the time comes that wives and mothers have so much knowledge of business that husbands and fathers are not afraid to bestow upon them their entire confidence, sure of sympathy and help, there will be far less number of commercial disasters.

Don't be afraid to learn the details of household management or housework. We know of nothing more ennobling than skill in any work that contributes to the health and happiness of our family. It has been said that life is what we make it. So with work, whatever our hands find to do, if done with skill and precision, may be but a stepping stone to something more remunerative labor. Much has been said about woman's rights and woman's sphere, but we have less fuss about woman's rights than their capacity to enjoy the rights they have. Some of my readers would like to emulate the bright example of such persons as Mrs. Swisshelm or Frances Willard, perhaps you could get your grandmother to teach you how to make a bowl of gruel that would be palatable as a first lesson. From my experience among sick people, I should say that very few young ladies understand this simple process.—W. W. Y.

WHAT A LITTLE WOMAN CAN DO.—I commenced to keep account of my eggs last January and had 130 hens and from them I have sold 800 dozen eggs, besides raising 150 young chickens, and we used about three dozen eggs a week. I got an average of 14 cents per dozen for my eggs and sold about $45 worth of poultry and I think that I fed them about $30 worth of feed besides what they picked up about the farm, as we live on a small one of 80 acres. I have about 80 fowls (weight 240) on hand. —MRS. W.

AN ANXIOUS INQUIRER.—If I may I will speak of women and their work briefly. O women, girls and friends, all come to my assistance in the temperance cause. I have many dear ones going on the downward road through strong drink. What can I do? I have been a member of the W. C. T. U. and worked for the [illegible] was 16 years old, yet I [illegible] devised every [illegible] can claim as mine. [illegible] profitable in holding of the weak and fa[illegible] small things in intemperance a part of [illegible]rk? I have been told that it was now of just we women sit with folded hands, that let the moderate drinkers fill drunkards' graves, and simply because people in our community think it immodest for ladies to be free to speak on that subject? Please give me your opinion.—ANXIOUS, Holmesville, O.

Inquiries.

Is there such a publication as "Chambers' Journal?" If so, will someone please give the address.—ONYX.

There is such a publication. Address "Publishers" at Edinburg, Scotland.—ED.

Will "Ruth" please send quilt patterns that were spoken of in the BLADE of October 16.—MRS. E. HATFIELD, Haven, Tama Co., Iowa.

Will someone tell me how to color furs black?—M. W. B.

I would like to hear from some of the readers of the BLADE that have settled in the West and homesteaded or preempted land if there is more in the vicinity that can be had in the same way, as we wish to emigrate in the spring. I send my full address that you may answer through the BLADE, or direct to me as you wish.—CHARLES A. RAYNOR, Etna Green, Kosciuko Co., Ind.

Will the editor, or some one of the HOUSEHOLD please tell me where I can get sulphuret of tarium? I have had a druggist try to get it for me in Chicago, and so far he has failed. I would like a good recipe for making mince pies.—VIRGIE.

Have him send to New York for it. It can be had there, as we know of persons getting it.—ED.

1. What is the capital of Louisiana? 2. What part of British America is Canada? The text books used do not agree, and I wish to give my pupils the facts concerning these points.—LIDE MENDENHALL, Keighley, Butler Co., Kan.

1. Baton Rouge. 2. The dominion of Canada embraces the northern part of North America including the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, British Columbia, Manitoba, Hudson Bay and Northwest territories, with the exception of Labrador and the islands in the Arctic Ocean.—ED.

I have seen several letters in the HOUSEHOLD from Kansas, offering homes to single persons. I would like to ask if they are supplied? I have a friend, a young lady, who would like to go to Kansas. References given from both sides.—A SUBCRIBER. Address Box 184, Marion, N. Y.

Will you give me through the HOUSEHOLD department the address of the best hospital in the United States?—MARY I. POWELL.

In BLADE Dec. 18, you will find in "Woman's Work" a list of hospitals with which training schools for nurses are connected. As to which is best we can give you no information. All are supposed to be good.—ED.

Can any of the BLADE give me a sure remedy for croup? Have tried all the old remedies but to no success. Also what will clean rust from nickel plate on stove?—SUNSHINE.

Will some kind reader tell me through the HOUSEHOLD whether it is right for a woman to speak in church? If so where can authority be found in the New Testament.—B. L. N.

Answers to Inquiries.

Please say to "Ella" that if she wants to get rid of flies, to ask at a drug store for insect powder, which they will tell her how to use, and I think she will be made happy.

Tell the lady asking for a recipe to color cake pink, to get 1 dr. of cream tartar, 1 dr. of saleratus, 1 dr. of alum and ½ dr. of cochineal. Boil the cochineal in 3 tablespoonfuls of water, then strain it into the other ingredients. Color a portion of the cake batter, and put in alternate layers of the batter to suit the taste.—TOPSY.

Ink stains can be removed without injuring the goods by soaking in sweet milk. Change the milk often enough to keep it sweet. Will some one give directions for weaving zephyr flowers not to be combed? —M. E.

If your doors freeze fast on the door sill in winter, sprinkle salt on the sill. I had to pour hot water under the door to open it before I found salt would help it. Thanks to "Mell" for yeast recipe; it is splendid.—MRS. A. M., Kansas.

I would say in answer to "Michigan Teacher's" inquiry that Liberal, Mo., is a very good country for school teachers. Male teachers get from $35 to $50 per month during the winter, and $30 to $40 during summer. Teachers not very plenty. It is a good country for young men to invest capital, etc.—J. T. L., Liberal, Barton Co., Mo.

Some one asks for "felon cure." Here is one: Take one teaspoonful of table salt and heat it until perfectly dry. Add to this one teaspoonful of castile soap cut fine and mix with one teaspoonful of turpentine. Apply night and morning. Sure cure.

To "Mrs. F. M.," Douglas, Kan.—If "Mrs. F. M." will send her address and a stamped envelope to box No. 2, Golden, Ill., I will send her a sample of the lace she requires. Would send the directions to the HOUSEHOLD, but am afraid I cannot make them plain enough. It is easy made. I learned by looking at some.—MRS. C. H. V.

If "Mrs. S. J. C." will try this washing fluid I think she will find her labors greatly lightened: One lb. Babbitt's potash, 1 oz. salts tartar, 1 oz. ammonia, and 1 gal. soft water. Put all the ingredients together and simmer slowly till thoroughly dissolved. When cold pour in bottles. Soak the white clothes over night; in the morning wring them out; soap well and put them over to boil with a teacupful of the fluid added to the boiler of water. Boil about three-quarters of an hour, stirring often. Some of the pieces will have to be rubbed a little after boiling. Rinse, starch and hang out to dry.—VIRGIE.

"Essie" will accept thanks for her kind words and the interest she expresses in the editor of the HOUSEHOLD personally. Sometime her friendly curiosity may be gratified.—ED.

Mrs. H. M. Pittsfield, Mass., you can still obtain "Fancy Work and House Decoration," by inclosing the price, 25 cents, to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O.

Recipes.

Premium Chocolate Cake.—Five layers. 1½ cupfuls of white sugar, 3 cupfuls of flour, 1 cupful of milk, ½ cupful of sweet milk, 1 teaspoonful of cream of tartar, ½ teaspoonful of soda, 1 egg. Spread between the layers this cream: 2 tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate, scant 3 gills of milk, corn starch to make sufficiently thick; sweeten to taste; use vanilla extract. Cook the cream slowly by putting the dish with the above into another filled with boiling water, instead of on the stove.—YOUR NEW SUBSCRIBER, MRS. E. J. A.

Tapioca Pudding.—One cupful of tapioca; soak in water over night; 1 quart of milk; let it boil, then add the yolks of 4 eggs and 1 cupful of sugar; let it boil then till done. Beat the whites remaining, add 2 tablespoonfuls of sugar, spread over the top, set in the oven to lightly brown; use any favorite extract.

Cracker Pudding.—Three cupfuls sweet milk, 2 cupfuls crackers, 1 egg. Let the milk heat. Roll the crackers and stir in. Beat the egg and stir in after taking the pudding from the stove. This is a quick pudding, and it's very nice to get if unexpected company arrive late for dinner. Serve with sauce composed of 1 cupful of water, ½ teacupful of sugar, butter size of an egg; thicken with corn starch, add vanilla extract.—MRS. E. J. J.

Yankee Plum Pudding.—One qt. sour creamy milk, 2 eggs, spoonful of sugar, teaspoonful of soda, and a large handful of raisins. Thicken into a stiff batter, with half flour and half corn meal. Steam an hour and a half. Eat with sweet cream or pudding sauce.—EX.

Pumpkin Pies.—First make a good custard, using new and unskimmed milk, sugar, 1 egg for every 2 pies, ginger, and a good pinch of salt. Taste and see that it is flavored just right before the pies are finely cooked and strained pumpkin is added. Do not put in too much pumpkin. Have the pie crust rich and good; bake in a moderately hot oven, and as soon as they puff up they are done. They should be slipped off the pans as soon as they come out of the oven on to a thick folded paper or perfectly clean cloth. Many cooks grease pie tins and plates. Instead, just sprinkle over with flour. They will not stick fast, and one is never annoyed with an over-moist or soggy undercrust.—MRS. R. S.

Dried Apple Cake.—Cheap and good.—One cupful dried apples soaked in water over night then chop and simmer them slowly 2 hours in 1 cupful molasses. To this add 2 eggs, 1 cupful of sugar, a lump of butter the size of an egg, 1 cupful sour milk, 4 cupfuls flour, 1 teaspoonful of soda; spice to suit the taste.—MRS. I. N.

Liniment.—One oz. oil origanum; 1 oz. oil of spirits; 1 oz. ammonia; 1 gill turpentine; 1 gill alcohol; 1 gill vinegar; 1 gill cream; excellent for man and beast. Shake thoroughly before using. Please try and report.—MRS. J. N.

—Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured thousands of cases of rheumatism. This is abundant reason for belief that it will cure you. Try it.

Our Young Folks.

THE DREAM PEDDLER.

Up the streets of Slumber-town
Comes the crier with his bell;
Calling softly, up and down,
"Dreams to sell! Dreams to sell!
Will the children choose to buy?
Such a world of them have I?

"Here are dreams for merry spring,
Fashioned where the blossoms wake
Where the fields and meadows ring
With the songs the breezes make;
Dreams! Dreams! come and buy;
Who has merrier dreams than I?

"Here are dreams for summer sleep
Fancies light as thistle-spray,
Woven where the fairies keep
Carnival and holiday;
Dreams! Dreams! buy and try;
Who has daintier dreams than I?

"Dreams to sell in Slumber-town!
Sure you'll buy these glowing dreams;
Warp and woof of red and brown
Chosen from the autumn's gleams!
Ah, no peddler far or nigh
Sells such gorgeous dreams as I!

"Here's a dream that winter brought
From his palaces of snow;
Well his frozen fingers wrought
All its wonders, long ago,
When the stars shone, pure and bright,
On your blessed Christmas night!"

On the streets of Slumber-town
Ever sounds a silver bell,
As the crier wanders down
With his curious wares to sell,
Crying softly: "Come and buy;
Who has sweeter dreams than I?"
—*Lucy M. Blinn, in January Wide Awake.*

For the Blade Young Folks.

SWEET REVENGE.

BY M. M.

People living in level counties know nothing of the dangers that often overtake those who live near mountain streams. In a dry season the beds of the rivers and creeks are almost dry. But when a few days of steady rain sets in the water comes rushing down from the mountain sides until the slender streamlet has become a raging torrent, carrying before it everything that comes in its path.

In the spring of '62 a family consisting of a father, mother and two children, lived at the mouth of Pigeon creek, a tributary of the Big Sandy river.

Unlike many of their neighbors they were firm Union people. When the war broke out Mr. Steele joined the ninety-days men, confident that before that time had expired right would assert itself and the armies be disbanded. He did not realize the magnitude of the struggle on which the nation had entered.

During the summer of '61 Mrs. Steele and her son Sammy worked on their little farm, and by their united industry succeeded in laying up provisions for the coming winter.

Across the river from Mr. Steele's farm lived a family named Benson. They were bitter Secessionists and the father and three sons belonged to a band of Bush-whackers that infested that section. Honest toil had no charms for them, and they lived by robbing those who were too weak to protect themselves. Mrs. Steele's industry had been noticed, and its results were counted upon as their rightful prey, when they found it convenient to seize them. So when Sammy had prepared one evening for killing next day the "fatted hog," they very kindly relieved him of all further trouble on that account, by shooting the hog, and removing it to their side of the river. Before the winter was over a great part of what the Steele's had accummulated by their industry followed in the wake of the hog, and instead of having plenty Mrs. Steele and her two children went hungry and half-clad. How often Sammy wished for strength to retaliate! But the arm of a twelve year old boy was too weak to protect his mother and his little sister, much as he loved them.

In the beginning of March a heavy rain set in which continued almost without cessation for a week. The creek and the river were both at flood-tide, the bottom lands were inundated; logs, brush, fodder-shocks, went whirling past in the muddy torrent, while the rain continued a steady downpour.

After dinner an old man was seen approaching the Steele's cottage. When he came near enough they recognized a neighbor who lived a mile or so back on the hills.

Sammy hastened to open the door for him, while Mrs. Steele held out her hand in cordial greeting.

"Uncle Joshua, I hope you are feeling pretty smart this rough weather. And Aunt Sallie, how is she?"

"Pretty smart, pretty smart, thank ye," said the old man, "but Sally, she's sick, and I came for you to see if you could help her some."

Mrs. Steele hastily prepared to face the storm, and went with the old man, while Sammy and little Edith watched them, and when they had disappeared behind the hill, the children returned to the house. Sammy stood his little sister on a chair by the window, while he went down to the river to see to his "johnboat." The river was rising rapidly, and Sammy noticed that the house occupied by the Benson family was surrounded by water, but as he had seen the women folks go that way early in the morning, and no sign of any one's being at home since, he gave no further thought to the matter, except to wish that the water might rise high enough to wash away the house.

He drew his boat farther up on the bank, and tied it securely, then he turned to go back to the house.

Just then he heard some one call "Halloo!" He turned in the direction of the sound, and saw a man standing in the door of the house opposite.

"Fetch your boat over here and take us off," called the man.

Sammy hesitated a moment, he was a kind-hearted boy, but revenge is sweet. All the wrongs he and his had suffered from the Bensons rose up before his mind, and with a smile of exultation he turned again toward the house.

"Hallo, I say!" again called the man, "if you don't take us off of here you'll be sorry for it."

"I wonder how he'll make me sorry after he's drowned," thought Sammy, as he walked up the bank.

The man called again, but Sammy ran toward the house, fearful that he might not be able to resist the appeal.

He entered the house, and spoke to his sister, but his voice sounded strange, as if some one else was speaking and not he.

He went to the fire and stood by it to dry his clothing. The wind whistled down the chimney, and seemed to bring again the call of the man across the river, only a hundred seemed to be calling instead of one, and mingled with it was a louder voice repeating the words, "Thou shalt not kill!"

His brain seemed to be whirling. Would he indeed be a murderer if he refused to try to rescue one who had so wronged him? He might try, and fail. He might be drowned in the effort. He would have to leave his little sister alone. These and a thousand other arguments rushed through his mind, but could not drown the voices that were calling him.

He went to the door and opened it. The rain was freezing as it fell.

"Brother dear, go out again," said Edith, catching him by the hand, "your boat is safe, and I am afraid to stay by myself."

Still he wished for revenge. Surely this was God taking vengeance, and should he interfere?

Suddenly he snatched his hand away from his sister's clasp, and rushed toward his boat. If that man were drowned he would always hear him calling, he would always feel himself a murderer, for he did wish him to be drowned.

When he again came in sight of the Benson house he saw that the water had reached it. Three men were standing on the roof. Did they call, or was it yet the voices calling down the chimney?

He could not tell. The air seemed full of voices. Surely his sister called him, and his mother! And listen! Is not that his father's voice?

He untied the boat as quickly as possible. It was already afloat, for the water was rising with fearful rapidity. He rowed up the river for a considerable distance and then with his boat still headed up stream, began to cross. His heart nearly failed him. If he were caught in the mass of driftwood he would certainly be lost. The oars were icy, and his hands already benumbed. Just then he looked toward the place from which he had started. His little Edith stood at the top of the bank, with her arms stretched toward him. Should her foot slip on the treacherous ground, he dared not think of the consequence. His heart turned toward the only one who could protect her, and breathing a prayer for her safety, and for himself, he bent his oars together and redoubled his efforts. The current was rapidly bearing him down stream, and he was nearing the other shore. The voices had ceased calling him, he heard no sound but the swish of the water, the oars grating on the boat, and occasionally one piece of drift crushing against another. Edith was yet standing where he had seen her. He was now out of the current, and a few more strokes of the oar brought him to the door of the house. The water was nearly up to the low roof of the cabin, and the walls were tottering, ready to fall.

He felt faint and sick, as one of the men jumped into the boat, and caught him in his arms, and hugged and kissed him, laughing and crying over him at the same time. Yes, surely it was, it was his own dear father. Mr. Steele was returning home on a furlough, when he was captured by this band of bush whackers, who although bad were not totally depraved, but preserved his life while they retained him a captive.

And it was in her father's arms that little Edith was carried back to the house, and sitting round the hospitable fire-place that night wrongs were forgotten, and neighborly love and gratitude enkindled that sectional feelings could never hereafter overcome.

THE GOLD BASKET.

BY SOPHIE MAY.

It was only a fruit-dish of white china, with gilt bands around it; but litle Vi admired it very much, and called it "mamma's gold basket."

One afternoon Aunt Emily came to make a call, and mamma brought in the basket filled with nice large Florida oranges. After everybody had eaten an orange, and Aunt Emily had gone, sister Anna set the basket on the kitchen table, and that was the way the trouble began.

Little Vi went out there all alone to play with the cat. She chased her around and around the room, till by and by kitty, growing tired of the sport, jumped into a chair, and got upon the table.

"Come down! come down!" said little Vi. "You must not smell those oranges with your nose. Come down!"

But Kitty did not come; she was trying to decide whether the beautiful yellow balls were good to eat. Then Vi caught her by the tail and pulled her backward. She did not do it roughly, but somehow that gold basket got in the way—perhaps kitty's paw touched it, perhaps it was Vi's arm; but, at any rate, the basket was overturned, and down it fell, broken in pieces upon the floor.

Vi stared in surprise at the dreadful ruin, and then she stared at the oranges rolling, helter, skelter, under the stove.

"Who did that? How did it fall?" thought she.

But next moment it came over her that she herself was to blame.

"Why, I didn't mean to! That pretty, pretty basket! What will mamma say?" Little Vi's forehead was full of wrinkles, her eyes were full of tears. She stood so still that you could almost have heard the fly on the roller towel scrape his wings.

"I'll go tell mamma I did it, and I'm so sorry. No, I'll tell her *kitty* did it—I guess kitty did do it. Naughty kitty!"

The little girl moved one foot, and then she stood still again. The clock ticked very loud—you know how loud a clock does tick sometimes—and the fly on the towel gazzed at Vi and she gazzed at the fly.

"No,

Words of Warning and Comfort.

"If you are suffering from poor health or languishing on a bed of sickness, take cheer. If you are simply ailing, or if you feel weak and dispirited, without clearly knowing why, Hop Bitters will surely cure you.

If you are a minister, and have overtaxed yourself with your pastoral duties, or a mother, worn out with care and work, or a man of business or labor, weakened by the strain of your everyday duties, or a man of letters toiling over your midnight work, Hop Bitters will most surely strengthen you.

If you are suffering from over-eating or drinking, any indiscretion or dissipation, or are young and growing too fast, as is often the case,

"Or if you are in the workshop, on the farm, at the desk, anywhere, and feel that your system needs cleansing, toning, or stimulating, without intoxicating, if you are old, your blood thin and impure, pulse feeble, nerves unsteady, faculties waning, Hop Bitters is what you need to give you new life, health and vigor."

If you are costive, or dyspeptic, or suffering from any other of the numerous diseases of the stomach or bowels, it is your own fault if you remain ill. If you are wasting away with any form of kidney disease, stop tempting death this moment, and turn for a cure to Hop Bitters.

If you are sick with that terrible sickness, Nervousness, you will find a "Balm in Gilead" in Hop Bitters.

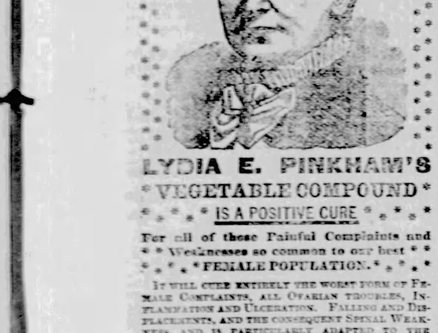
If you are a frequenter, or a resident of, Malaria, Epidemic, Bilious and Intermittent Fevers by use of Hop Bitters.

If you have rough, pimply, or sallow skin, bad breath, Hop Bitters will give you fair skin, rich blood, the sweetest breath health. $50 will be paid for a case they will not cure or help.

A Lady's Wish.

"Oh, how I do wish my skin was as clear and soft as yours," said a lady to her friend. "You can easily make it so," answered the friend. How? inquired the first lady. "By using Hop Bitters, that makes pure, rich blood and blooming health. It did it for me, as you see."

[N. B.—None genuine without a bunch of green Hops on the white label. Shun all the vile, poisonous stuff with "Hop" or "Hops" in their name.



LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND IS A POSITIVE CURE

For all of those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best FEMALE POPULATION.

IT WILL CURE ENTIRELY THE WORST FORM OF FEMALE COMPLAINTS, ALL OVARIAN TROUBLES, INFLAMMATION AND ULCERATION. FALLING AND DISPLACEMENTS, AND THE CONSEQUENT SPINAL WEAKNESS, AND IS PARTICULARLY ADAPTED TO THE CHANGE OF LIFE.

IT WILL DISSOLVE AND EXPEL TUMORS FROM THE UTERUS IN AN EARLY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT. THE TENDENCY TO CANCEROUS HUMORS THERE IS CHECKED VERY SPEEDILY BY ITS USE.

IT REMOVES FAINTNESS, FLATULENCY, DESTROYS ALL CRAVING FOR STIMULANTS, AND RELIEVES WEAKNESS OF THE STOMACH. IT CURES BLOATING, HEADACHES, NERVOUS PROSTRATION, GENERAL DEBILITY, SLEEPLESSNESS, DEPRESSION AND INDIGESTION.

THAT FEELING OF BEARING DOWN, CAUSING PAIN, WEIGHT AND BACKACHE, IS ALWAYS PERMANENTLY CURED BY ITS USE.

IT WILL AT ALL TIMES AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES ACT IN HARMONY WITH THE LAWS THAT GOVERN THE FEMALE SYSTEM.

FOR ITS PURPOSE IS SOLELY FOR THE LEGITIMATE HEALING OF DISEASE. WE DO NOT CLAIM IT WILL DO ALL IT CLAIMS TO DO, THOUSANDS OF LADIES CAN GLADLY TESTIFY. FOR THE CURE OF KIDNEY COMPLAINTS IN EITHER SEX THIS REMEDY IS UNSURPASSED.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND is prepared at Lynn, Mass. Price $1. Sir bottles for $5. Sent by mail in the form of pills, also in the form of Lozenges on receipt of price as above. Mrs. Pinkham's "Guide to Health" will be mailed free to any Lady sending stamp. Do not be induced to buy any of the worthless medicines said to be without LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S LIVER PILLS. They cure Constipation, Biliousness and Torpidity of the Liver. 25 cents per box.

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Contributions must be legibly written on only one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Answers to Inquiries.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

CORN MEASUREMENT.—You inquire for a reliable rule for measuring corn in the crib. I think the following rule will prove accurate: Multiply the length by height, and then by width, and two ciphers to the result and divide by 124. This gives the number of bushels of ears. Another rule is to proceed as above to obtain the cubic feet, and then assume that 11-5 cubic feet make one bushel of ears.—JAMES E. REYNOLDS, Akron, N. Y.

RUPTURED PIGS.—In order to geld a ruptured pig first raise him partly up by the hind legs; then be careful not to cut only just through the hide; then draw out the testicle far enough to tie a small strong cord back of it; then cut the skin and cut the testicle, and the work is done.—YANKEE, Cameron, Mo.

STRAWBERRIES.—In answer to J. B. Grove, no state, I would give the same answer that was given to the man that was going to set 1,000 apple trees and inquired of his friend in reference to the kind. The reply was 999 to Baldwin's, and what would the other one be? Why, Baldwin, too. Set Crescent by all means. Set nothing else but Crescent for a bed. I know whereof I speak. Strawberries is my business, and with the many kinds on my grounds, the Cre cent, with a good "Tolenzer," beats them all. Remember that the Crescent is a pistillate, and will not produce a full crop without being tolenized. Use Wilson, Cap Jack, Michigan, or any good, healthy "Hermaphroelite."—G. G. W., Marcellus, Mich.

WILL NOT GERMINATE.—M. R., Hart Mills, Kan.: Apple, peach, plum and quince seed will not germinate in this climate unless planted in the fall or early winter. They never germinate unless frozen after planting. I have no experience with grapes, but would suppose they were of the same nature.—W. E. WORTHAM, West Cliffy, Ark.

FENCE BUILDING.—Irwin J. Hatch, Clerk, Manistee county, Mich., you had better write direct to Jacob Pesley, if you have his address, as the BLADE cannot undertake to answer such questions, of an advertising nature.—ED.

BLACK LEG.—I saw in the farm department of your paper a question asking if there was a preventative for black leg in cattle. I have used the following recipe and have seen it used for years with wonderful success: 1 lb. sulphur, 1 lb. saltpetre, 1 lb. copperas, 1 lb resin, 3 lbs carbonate of iron; pulverize and mix. Add four fifths salt to one-fifth of the mixture, and feed to cattle in troughs.—JAMES CLARK, Tekamah, Burt county, Neb.

BARBED WIRE.—W. H. Beck, Mark, Iowa. The BLADE cannot advertise any particular brand of barbed wire. Our advertising columns are open to the manufacturers.—ED.

RAISING ONIONS FOR MARKET.—E. E. E., Poplar Bluff, Mo.—In your locality sow the seed in rows, fourteen inches apart, and as early in April or when the apple is in bloom, or as soon as the soil can be worked. If your wish is to raise onions for the early market plant Landreth's Extra Early Red. If needed for bunching, sow from five to six pounds to the acre. If for late market, the Weathersfield Large Red; from four to five pounds will be sufficient; cover the seeds to the depth of half an inch. Ashes, bone dust, gypsum, and the salt and lime mixture are the best manures for this crop. To make the latter, take three bushels (180 lbs.) of lime, fresh from the kiln, and slake it with water in which one bushels (60 lbs.) of salt has been dissolved. Use only enough water to dissolve the salt. See Warings Elements of Agriculture, page 99. For the best results, this mixture should be incorporated with ten times its bulk of muck or decayed leaves, and be allowed to lie under shelter at least three and a month before using. Apply about a The little slit to the rod and harrow in. The ashes, out again, and sh gypsum, (land plaster) can be er the plants after the first ficient quantities to give the plants a light coat of gray. Use the wheel hoe often, and weed thoroughly. Thin out, if necessary, but if the soil is quite rich the onions can be allowed to almost touch each other. When the late crop is ripe, pull and lay them in small windows, and when the tops are dead and dry, clip them off with a pair of sharp shears. After being well suncured, store where it is cool or dry, or sell and ship.—S. W. H.

WHAT VARIETIES OF STRAWBERRIES TO PLANT.—In reply to J. B. Grove, I wish to state that the best varieties with me, on clay soil, and which ripen in succession, are the Crystal City which ripens the last of May, and is closely followed by the Crescent Seedling, Capt. Jack, Chas. Downing, Cumberland Triumph and Wilson's Albany. The Glendale and Manchester are the latest maturing varieties, making a six weeks succession of this indespensable and delicious fruit. Of the new varieties which I am now testing on my grounds, the "Jas. Vick" is the most promising. The "Daisy," which is another seedling originated by Samuel Miller, a veteran horticulturist of Missouri, promises to be a most desirable variety. The Sharpless is not adapted to my soil.—W. M. K., Yellow Springs, O.

FRUITS FROM SEEDS.—M. B., Hart Mill, Kaus.—The apple, pear, quince and grape seeds, as well as cherry pits and peach pits, should be placed in shallow boxes mixed with sand, and be left exposed to rain, frost and snow during the winter. In the spring use a sive and seperate the sand from the seeds or scatter sand and seed thinly in rows and cover thin amount of the seeds with rich soil to the depth of half an inch. Peach, cherry and plum pits can be covered to the depth of an inch.

If you have failed to mix the seed with sand, or should fail to do it by the first of February, then at planting time put the seeds in a vessel in water as hot as the hand can be kept. Let the apple and quince seed remain one hour before planting. For the grape, honey locust or osage orange seed, repeat the hot water process three or four days in succession. The peach and cherry pits need not be opened by the frost, but can be carefully cracked and the kernel planted. The trenches or drills ought to be 24 or 30 inches apart, so that the wheel hoe and garden cultivator can be used to keep the young plants free from weeds during the first and second seasons growth. Transplant where they are to remain at the close of the second, or beginning of the third season.—E. B. H., Hamilton county, O.

PREVENTIVE REMEDY FOR THE BLACK-LEG.—C. M., King City, Mo.: Your inquiry indicates your belief that prevention is better than any subsequent attempt to cure. Every possible precaution should be taken to prevent so fatal a disease as the black-leg. A peculiarity of this disease, is that it attacks the most thrifty animals in the herd. So sudden and rapid is the progress of this disease, that whatever is done must be done quickly. At the very first indications of the dis ase the animal should be given as much water in a bucket as they will drink, to which there has been added two ounces of the chlorite of soda. Keep the animal well sheltered and comfortable. If this fails to produce the desired effect, resort to bleeding, which is highly recommended, if resorted to in the early stages of the disease. It is best to bleed the animal the evening preceding the giving of medicine the following morning. The dose should consist of one-half an ounce of pulverized crude antimony; one ounce each nitre in powder and brown sugar; one-fourth of an ounce of powdered myrrh; two ounces of flowers of sulphur. This should be given fasting, in the morning, in a quart of warm gruel. Allow the animal the usual feed on a couple of hours after. The medicine should be repeated every third morning if necessary, etc. Setons or vowels in the flanks or dewlaps are of great service when they cause a discharge of pus. Take two parts of horsehair; one part stran's from a grass rope; notch a small stick two inches in length about the middle of it. Tie the three strands fast, then braid them. Make it about as large as a lead pencil; make a hole, pass it through and then tie another stick the same as the first. This should be moved once daily for three or four days, as it will cause pus to generate quicker which is important. Linseed cake, good hay, turnip and other roots, and salted water should constitute the daily ration until the animal is sufficiently recovered to need no further care. In extreme cases active stimulants should be used, such as whisky or nitrous ether, or tincture of gentian in frequent and copious doses under the direction of the family physician.

The general symptoms of this dreaded disease are blood-shot eyes, loss of appetite, moaning, anxious countenance. The animal is lame on the fore or hind leg; the back and loins are exquisitely tender to the touch, swellings appear upon the back, shoulders and loins, crackling when pressed upon, which is due to a decomposition of tissues and generation of gas. Unhealthy sores appear, which discharge offensive matter; at the same time the mouth and tongue become excoriated, and a stinking bloody fluid drops from the nose and mouth. Diarrhœa sets in and the animal dies of exhaustion.—L. S. N., Green county, O.

Information Wanted.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

PINK EYE.—Can you give me a cure for pink eye in cattle, (I have lost 17 head lately). Also, what will remove blue lice from cattle without taking off the hair. J. A. CHERRY, Rosch, Mo.

CALF.—J. R. Terhune, Savannah, Mo., is desirous of receiving from some one who is posted, full instructions as to calf culture—when to put them in the room, how to care for them, and how profitable they are.

WORMS IN COLTS.—Can you give a remedy for worms in colts? I have a valuable colt troubled in that way and can find nothing to relieve it. Would also like to have you give me a remedy for lice in cattle.—JAMES BERRY, Scotland, Dak.

A SICK MARE.—We have a mare called nine years old, but I think is older, that is strangely afflicted. When we work her hard she lets gas escape every few moments from the anus and her bowels keep rumbling, sometimes slime is mixed with the excrement. I notice a large round worm at times. The escape of gas continues for a day or two, when it grows less frequent, but she is troubled more or less all the time. She has some gleet from the nose, sometimes more, sometimes less. What is the matter and what can we do to relieve her?—J., Robbs's, W. Va.

SCOURS IN SHEEP.—Please give me a cure for scours in sheep, as my flock is badly affected with the disease.—A. CHRISTNER, Homerville, Neb.

SPLIT HOOF.—A neighbor of mine has a fine horse that has something the matter with his right hoof. The horse is five years old. Two years ago he became very lame in that foot. The lameness continued about four days, when it broke immediately above the center of the hoof, splitting the top of the hoof. It festered and ran freely for a day or two, then the lameness disappeared and the horse seemed to be well, but after three months it erupted again at the same place, broke, ran, etc., and has continued to do so every three months since. The top of the hoof is now split to within half an inch of the toe. The horse always goes lame four or five days before it breaks, and ceases to be lame as soon as it runs freely. Now, what is the matter with him, and what is the remedy?—SANE, Lost Creek, Tenn.

GEESE.—Will some one tell me the best breed of geese? How many geese to one gander to be sure of a good hatch? What are the relative points of excellence of the Embden and Toulouse geese? Will Embden or Toulouse gander mate with the common goose? What will be the cost of one pair?—G. M. WILSON, Morrisonville, Ill.

A Correction.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

In the account of corn husking between Thompson and Bailey in your issue of January 8, it should read: Scandia, Republic Co., Kan., instead of Leandin, and S. A. McKay instead of S. S. McKay. As there is no such place or person in this county as were published, it may create a doubt of the truth of the statements.—S. A. MCKAY, Scandia, Kan.

The Work of One Turkey.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

A correspondent having given an account of a turkey that laid 70 eggs in one summer, I beg with send an authentic account of a turkey that laid 130 eggs the past summer. At the commencement of winter she shed her feathers all at once, as closely as though she had been picked, and had to be taken into the house to protect her against the cold weather. My neighbor, George Welch, owns the turkey, and the statement can be verified.—F. C. GREENE, Renville, Minn.

Welcom Oats.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

I sowed broadcast on the 14th day of last May about 12 quarts of the Welcom oats. I harvested them and threshed out with the machine 31½ bushels of oats. I weighed a bushel of them after I ran them through a fanning mill, and they weighed 42 pounds per bushel, making 28 bushels and 7 pounds by weight. There was not many light oats in them, and the straw was from 5 to 6 feet high. I measured some heads that was 18 inches long and counted as high as 207 grains on one head.—W. V. C., Manton, Wexford Co.; Mich.

A human skull, to which was attached a paper tag inscribed "A. T. Stewart," was found in the area of a private residence in Bloomfield street, Hoboken, N. J. It is supposed to have been thrown into the area as a joke.

News of the Week.

NATIONAL POLITICS.

Marshal Wright's Examination Continued—Follett's Folly.

The examination of Marshal Wright was continued before the Springer committee in Cincinnati Tuesday.

The general method of questioning was to read the names of deputies appointed, one by one, and ask the marshal if he knew these men, where they lived, who recommended them, and then Mr. Follett would ask if witness did not know they were thieves, murderers, ex convicts, just out of jail or workhouse, charged with crimes, etc.

Witness in most cases could not recollect the persons asked about, nor who recommended them, but said it was possible some were appointed who were not recommended at all, though his aim was to get men qualified for the work. In reference to one colored man, he said he knew he was reported to be a bad man, but he did not believe the reports were well founded. At any rate he was a man well qualified to meet the emergency which called for the appointment of deputies, namely, the danger of repeating. He was aware that some of his men were not strictly pious, but in making his appointments he had regard to the elements his deputies would have to deal with. He had never heard of a single instance where any deputy had in any way prevented any citizen from casting his vote.

Mr. Follett asked him if he did not know some of his deputies were keepers of crap houses and low dives. Witness replied he did not know the meaning of these terms. In the appointment of so many men in such a short time it would be difficult to get all with perfectly clean history. A man may have been in the penitentiary and still be a good man for deputy marshal at the election.

Follett—Yes, I suppose a man may have been in jail yesterday and be a saint to-day.

Wright—A man have been in jail yesterday and been a saint yesterday.

Witness repeated that he made a great effort to get good, efficient men, and most of them were such.

Mr. Follett asked how many of the 600 revolvers distributed had been returned. Witness said between 300 and 400.

"Still," said Mr. Follett, "you had good men who retained nearly half your revolvers?"

Witness said he expected to get more of these revolvers yet. He admitted having appointed three deputies to serve at Reading, which was not a city of 20,000 inhabitants, and from which he had no written application. In witness' view of the law he had power to send general deputies to every voting place in the southern Ohio district, but would not be entitled to allow them pay for such service. He denied having had consultations with Butterworth and Brown, or with the Republican committee, except in a casual way. In general he followed his own judgment. He denied that there was a plan agreed upon after consultation to appoint as many ex-policemen as possible, which was afterwards abandoned, and the other plan adopted. He took some advice about appointments from E. G. Rathbone, of the pension department, who was also a general deputy of his, having been appointed some year or more ago.

Judge Foraker began the cross-examination by asking if witness had knowledge of any Democrat hindered or prevented from casting a legal vote at the October election by reason of the presence of deputy marshals. Witness said he made a diligent inquiry and had not heard of a single instance. On the contrary, on election day, a considerable number of Republican voters, particularly from the Eighth ward, came to his office bleeding from violence suffered there, and saying they could not vote. He received calls that day from the Sixth Fifth and other wards for more deputies on account of violence shown to Republican voters. This caused him to appoint deputies on election day. In the Eighth ward deputies were knocked down and revolvers taken from them. The reason he sent more deputies to the Sixth ward was that it was notorious for fraud and violence. At the last spring election in the Democratic majority was increased from 368 to 955 in this ward. There was such manifest fraud that even the Cincinnati *Enquirer* called attention to it and denounced it. The defiant hostility of city and county authorities the night before election, shown in the arrest of his deputies, even when they were serving warrants, led him to expect trouble. To the best of his knowledge 1,000 deputy sheriffs were appointed.

Objection was made to a question as to the comparative vote in October and November. Mr. Follett said he did not want to investigate the November election.

Judge Foraker argued that it was proper, to show the fact that at the November election, when there were no deputy marshals, the candidates of Mr. Follett's party received fewer votes than Mr. Follett, in order to disprove the charge against Marshal Wright that his course prevented voters from exercising their right.

Mr. Follett said this could not tend to prove anything at all, as in the case of New York city the variance of the vote for candidates of the same party was many thousands between state and national candidates.

The committee ruled that the total vote of the different parties at the October and November elections might be put in evidence.

At Wednesday's session of the Springer investigating committee, Mr. Follett, having called for books recording the methods of distribution of pistols furnished to deputy marshals, resumed the direct examination of Marshal Wright on that point. He elicited the fact that revolvers were not issued to individuals by the marshal, but in quantities to persons in different wards, to be issued by them to individuals. He gave some to Capt. Malone, of Covington, Ky., to be used for armed men recommended by him to guard the suspension bridge. They were mostly distributed the night before election.

Judge Foraker, on resuming the cross-examination, asked for the total figures of the October and November election, but it was agreed the tabulated statement should be submitted later, as witness had not the exact figures at hand. The cross examination led mainly into a justification of the marshal's course. He denied that he authorized any instructions about the use of revolvers, except for the purpose of keeping the peace and securing a fair election. He had no purpose in appointing marshals at all except to comply with the law and preserve the purity of the election. He was led to increase the number originally thought sufficient by reports of prospective violence. He appointed general deputies from other cities, to meet cases of alleged intended repeating from these places. He gave an instance of one Gallagher, who came from Chicago with a gang, but left when he saw the preparations to prevent repeating. He is the man now charged in connection with frauds at the Chicago election. Similar cases were reported to him from other points. His information was that the proposed frauds were solely in the interest of the Democratic party. He had not heard of a single case of a Democrat being prevented from casting a legal vote, and knew of but one person charged with attempting to illegally vote the Republican ticket. He has not yet been tried. No deputy marshals were allowed to work for the candidates. It was false that they intimidated or prevented Democratic voters. He knew that 152 colored voters were counted in Hammond street station house, without charge by the Democratic police, and kept there during the entire day of election, then discharged without hearing, and with out record.

To Chairman Springer he said his knowledge of this Hammond street station outrage came to him after the election was over, and therefore did not influence his official action on election day.

To Mr. Van Alen, one of the committee, he said the fact that 30 or more of these colored men were taken from one house did not create the impression they were there for casting fraudulent votes.

The examination was suspended to permit M. E. Ingalls to testify. He told his interviews with Wright in the capacity of chairman of the Citizens' committee, which he said was a committee of Democrats organized to raise money for the Democratic campaign. He said his purpose in seeing Wright was to get him and the mayor to act in concert, so that the police and deputies might be appointed from both parties, and thus avoid the appointment of deputy sheriffs. Wright refused to adopt his suggestions, and they parted in anger.

Mr. Ingalls said it was suggested to Marshal Wright that as one-half of the police were Republicans, the same proportion of deputy marshals should be Democrats. His position on this subject was that as the mayor and sheriff were Democrats, their forces would be Democrats, therefore his force should be Republican. Witness desired to avoid the appointment of deputy sheriffs, and hence his anxiety to have good men appointed deputy marshals.

On cross-examination, he said his committee only raised $1,000 in money. There was more excitement and less money in this campaign than any he ever saw. He had furnished reduced rates to both Democrats and Republicans, just before the election. He thought there were 50 Democrats and 25 Republicans so favored. They came from Chicago and other points.

Marshal Wright, resuming, said he had information that J. M. Dawson, present city solicitor, was in Covington a few days before the October election getting prisoners released from jail on straw bail. Mr. Dawson was the law partner of Mr. Follett.

A bull-dog revolver and cartridge and club, such as were used by the deputy marshals, were put in evidence.

Frederick Colton, a lawyer, testified he went to the United States court room on business on the day of the October election, and was refused admittance by an armed deputy marshal until he said he was a member of the bar. He found the place full of men, many of them negroes. United States commissioners were using the court room for the examination of prisoners. When he went out he found an armed colored deputy marshal guarding the stairway, preventing citizens from coming up to the court room.

C. W. Baker, a Democrat, appeared before the Springer committee at Cincinnati Thursday, and told the following story: A squad of colored deputy marshals were sent to the Nineteenth ward. Knowing the ward to contain a large Irish population, being certain this would cause a conflict, he took a buggy and went to see the result. He did not find any outbreak there, but men complained to him that Deputy Marshal Gleason, who had already shot one man, was dangerous, and that voters were afraid to approach the polls. Witness left soon, fearing personal injury. He saw at the Eighth ward polls a turbulent crowd, apparently ready for an outbreak. Deputy marshals were carrying clubs, such as the police use; others, apparently citizens, were armed with dray-pins, policemen's billets. He saw no Democrat who said he was prevented from voting, but did not choose to stay in such a place. In the United States court room he saw one ludicrous incident. Two large colored deputy marshals brought in a small colored man named Sylvester, and charged him with insulting the United States government. When asked to explain, one of the marshals said he asked Sylvester, in a grocery, where he voted and where he lived. Sylvester answered, "It's none of your business." The marshal then displayed his badge and arrested him for insulting the United States government. The man was promptly discharged on that complaint, but held until his residence could be ascertained. Witness was counsel for the prosecution of the Nuttle gang.

Foraker, for Marshal Wright, objected to the testimony as to Mullen until it was shown they had been appointed and acted as deputy marshals. He desired to show that they were not so appointed, by proving that they all worked for Mr. Follett's election. The committee ruled out all the testimony until it was shown they had acted as deputy marshals. A long discussion arose as to witness' testimony concerning the verdict and sentence of Lieut. Mullen, for whom he was counsel. He said there was no proof tending to show that more than three persons were imprisoned by Mullen and deprived of votes. Foraker tried to put in evidence the printed report of Judge Baxter's remarks in sentencing Mullen, in which he said Mullen's conduct had exposed to the confession he had imprisoned 152 lawful citizens and deprived them of the right of suffrage. Messrs. Springer and Vanalstyne, of the committee, opposed the introduction of Baxter's remarks, saying he should be called as a witness. Stewart, of the committee entered a protest against its exclusion, saying he would prefer a judicial statement to that of an attorney for defendant Mullen.

In describing the scenes in the court room on election day, witness said Marshal Wright told the marshals they were armed to use their arms, making no scruple about it. He thought Lieut. Dayton used the Kentucky Central railroad with the Knoxville branch. Deputy Sheriff Jas. White went to arrest Jas. and Henry Burton, brothers, charged with aiding J. W. Gaff, said to be engaged in an illegal whisky traffic, to escape from the officers who had him under arrest last week. The Burtons barricaded their saloon doors, and with friends on the inside defied arrest. A posse of fifteen men was summoned, and the Burtons surrendered. On the way to jail, James tried to escape and was fired upon by the posse. Burton's friends, some ten in number, then attacked the posse and the firing became general and continued for two hours. Bartelsmeyer, a teamster, and several men are reported killed and wounded, among them Judge Bullock, wounded in the arm. The excitement is intense.

A Stir in Religious Circles.

The worshipers in the Reformed Evangelical Friendship church in the lower part of Reading, Pa., have been considerably disturbed by the appearance of a vision on the wall of the church, since the anniversary of the strange sight several people have been converted. Rev. Theodore Jones, the young evangelist, who in connection with the regular pastor has been conducting nightly revival services in the church, was called on Wednesday. He admitted that a vision had been seen. The figure, he says, is that of a man's face, and appears directly above the motto "The Son of Man has Come to Save and to Seek That Which was Lost."

Rev. Jones, by way of explaining the cause of the vision to his people, referred to how Belshazzar saw the handwriting of his doom on the wall, and asked those present how they stood, and whether the vision was not some visitation from on high giving warning and bidding them repent and be saved before it was too late. Some people attribute the strange phenomenon to the Supreme Power, and regard it as an omen for good or evil. The affair has created quite a stir in religious circles. The church was so crowded Wednesday night that many were unable to gain admittance.

Female Notaries in New York.

Chief Justice McAdam rendered a decision in New York city in the action brought by Wm. C. Findlay against Leander H. Thorn et al., touching upon the question of female notaries. The plaintiff objected to a verification certified by a female notary is valid as to a third person, and furnishes no ground for returning the pleading. In this case a counter claim was put in in the defendant's answer. A reply was made to the counter claim which was returned because the certificate to the jurat was signed by a female notary. The defendants interposed objection upon the ground that the notary public being a female, was ineligible to public office, and could not therefore legally perform the functions of a notary. This female notary was appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. The court granted a motion to compel the defendants to accept the reply as a properly verified pleading.

Free Traders and the Spanish Treaty.

At the annual meeting of the New York free trade club, ex-Gov. Chamberlain read the report of a committee on the Spanish treaty. The report condemns the treaty for the following reasons: The disproportion between the United States and the islands treated with in size, population and importance; the fact that the articles proposed to be admitted to the United States free are those on which a tariff for revenue can best be imposed; and the injustice of the blow that would be struck without due warning at the Louisiana sugar industry. The report concludes with resolutions that the treaty would be inimical to the interests of the United States, and all insuperable obstacle to a reduction of internal taxation and to revenue reform in the shape of an abolition of duty upon raw materials needed for our manufactures—the only way to open the world's markets to our manufacturers. The report on resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Death of Myra Clark Gaines.

Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, the famous litigant, died in New Orleans, Friday night, aged 80. The first suit brought by Mrs. Gaines (then Mrs. Whitney) was against the trustees for some property left her by her father, Daniel Clark, under his will of 1811, which had been probated, but eventually that was abandoned as she claimed to have discovered proof of a later will in which she was recognized as his sole heir. This will was never produced in court, but a man named Francois Dusman de la Croix, an intimate friend of Clark, testified that it had been read to him by Clark himself a short time previous to his death, and he was told it would be found after his demise in a little black box in the room he occupied. As soon as Clark died De la Croix locked in the box for the will but failed to find it. This, however, was the basis of a claim which she has prosecuted for 50 years against the city and others who had purchased property of Relf & Chew, administrators under the will of 1811.

A Wheat Syndicate.

The Messrs. Ogleby, millionaire Canadian millers, of Montreal, representing a syndicate with a capital of $1,000,000, Kerr, general traffic manager of the Canadian Pacific, and Barlow Cumberland, general manager of the Lake Superior Steamship company, passed through St. Paul Thursday en route to Winnipeg to arrange transportation for 82,000,000 bushels of wheat from Manitoba to Montreal, and to place agents throughout Manitoba and Dakota to purchase wheat for the Canadian mills, the shipment to be made via Fort Arthur and the lake as soon as navigation opens. The gentlemen above named deny emphatically the recent rumor that the Canadian Pacific will ask for thirty millions of money at the next session of Parliament.

A San Francisco judge has decided that Chinese children born in this country must be allowed to attend public schools.

The Prohibitionists.

The National committee of the Prohibition party met in New York, with J. B. Finch, of Nebraska, in the chair. Prof. A. H. Hopkins offered a resolution on behalf of the committee on Agitation, which was unanimously adopted. Following are the principal points of the resolution:

"*Resolved*, That this committee and conference congratulate the friends of prohibition on the marked advance of the cause of organized prohibition made during the recent campaign, especially as exemplified by the recorded vote of over 150,000 in 34 states. We recommend and urge our friends to still more earnest efforts for the overthrow of the legalized liquor traffic, and for upholding the National Prohibition party, as an imperative means to that end.

"*Resolved*, That the committee and conference acknowledge their gratitude to Hon. John P. St. John and William Daniel for the able services rendered, without compensation, and their courageous loyalty to the white banner of prohibition. That the gross attacks on St. John's character, life and work by the opposing party press are as inexcusable as manifestly malicious and unjustifiable, and thus far without a particle of proof; and while they but bear witness to the fierce assaults of the truth, they call for universal condemnation and rebuke.

"That as to specific charges made and widely published by Clarkson, a member of the Republican National committee, we accept Hon. John P. St. John's positive and repeated denials therefor, and challenge Clarkson forthwith to produce whatever evidence he claims to have.

"We instruct the executive committee to secure the services of Hon. John P. St. John and other speakers for the current year, to proclaim the principles of prohibition,

A Good Showing for the New South.

The Baltimore *Manufacturer's Record*, in its annual review of Southern industries, publishes a list of all manufacturing and mining enterprises organized in the South and Southwestern states in 1884. The list shows 1,805 new enterprises, with an aggregate capital reaching the enormous sum of $105,269,000, divided among fourteen Southern states, as follows:

	New Estab.	Capital.
Alabama	187	$16,925,000
Arkansas	46	2,040,000
Florida	95	2,323,000
Georgia	196	5,455,000
Kentucky	157	21,762,000
Louisiana	53	5,554,000
Maryland	105	7,121,500
Mississippi	40	1,295,000
North Carolina	226	4,110,000
South Carolina	53	2,154,000
Tennessee	220	7,910,000
Texas	212	10,778,000
Virginia	158	13,450,000
West Virginia	77	4,520,000

In Kentucky, Alabama and Virginia extensive mining and iron companies, with large capital, were organized, which runs up the total investments in those states, though they also added to many of the smaller industries. The list shows almost every branch of general manufactures are represented. A noticeable feature is the amount of Northern and Western capital going into the South, though the Southern people are themselves showing remarkable energy in developing their resources.

A Whisky Riot in Kentucky.

A Mt. Vernon, Ky., special says: There is serious trouble in this country between whisky dealers and officers and the devil is to pay at Living-ton, a railroad station on the Rock Castle river, at the junction of the Kentucky Central railroad with the Knoxville branch. Deputy Sheriff Jas. White went to arrest Jas. and Henry Burton, brothers, charged with aiding J. W. Gaff, said to be engaged in an illegal whisky traffic, to escape from the officers who had him under arrest last week. The Burtons barricaded their saloon doors, and with friends on the inside defied arrest. A posse of fifteen men was summoned, and the Burtons surrendered. On the way to jail, James tried to escape and was fired upon by the posse. Burton's friends, some ten in number, then attacked the posse and the firing became general and continued for two hours. Bartelsmeyer, a teamster, and several men are reported killed and wounded, among them Judge Bullock, wounded in the arm. The excitement is intense.

A Short Honeymoon.

Minnie Gillett, a buxom, prepossessing white girl of 21, was married by a justice of the peace at Ainsworth, Neb., Monday last, to David Little, a brutal looking negro. Miss Gillett's father keeps a hotel at Ainsworth, and Little had been doing odd jobs about the house. He made the girl believe that he was heir to a large cattle ranch in Texas, and she consented to a secret marriage. Just as the ceremony was over Minnie's father came raving into the Squire's office with the information that Little had a black wife and two children in Des Moines, Ia. This disgusted his new made wife, and she swore out a warrant for Little's arrest on a charge of bigamy. While the papers were being made out Little fled, but was overtaken at Long Pine and taken back to Ainsworth, where he is now in jail awaiting the action of the grand jury.

Views of a British Free Trader.

Geo. Augustus Sala, in an interview, speaking of the business outlook in England, said: "Times are bad and business dull. I am a free trader, having been brought up in the school of Cobden and Bright, but must confess things look pretty blue over our way, and the Liberal party are coquetting with the free trade doctrine, and some people are demanding protection. My idea is that the only remedy lies in emigration, not to the United States, but to Australia. The Englishman only comes to this country to make money, but goes to Australia to live. Although I am a free trader, I must admit there are many things in England that are too cheap, and sugar is one of them. My object on this trip is to increase my finances, and if the American people decree it I shall repeat my lectures when I return from Australia."

Earthquake at Sea.

The British bark Isabel, from Cadiz to St. Johns, reports passing a large Norwegian bark on the 30th ult. The name of the bark was Alhama, of Arendal. There was not a vestige of the crew found. Two days previous the Isabel experienced several terrific earthquake shocks, lasting fifteen minutes. The thunderous submarine roaring was appalling. The ship was shaken in every fibre. The crew, paralyzed with fear, broke through all discipline, and cut the boats loose. Cessation of the shocks restored tranquility on board. It was calm and fine at the time.

The Tichborne Claimant.

A San Francisco dispatch says: "Edward Orton arrived here Monday from Australia whither he went at the instigation of Miss Georgina Baring, daughter of one of the celebrated London bankers, to identify Arthur Orton, confined in the Parramatta lunatic asylum at Sydney, New South Wales, as his brother. He states that he did identify him to be such, and is therefore thoroughly convinced that the claimant recently discharged from prison in London is really Roger Tichborne, heir to the Tichborne estates. The real Arthur Orton, now in Australia, will be taken to London to further establish his identity."

A DYNAMITE MURDER.

A Tragedy in the Printing Office of O'Donovan Rossa—Wild Rumors About Treachery, Fenianism, Etc.

At a late hour Friday afternoon several men rushed out of No. 12 Chambers street, New York, in which building is located the office of O'Donovan Rossa and the *United Irishman*. In a few seconds afterward a man covered with blood tottered down the stairs to the hallway and sank on the front stoop, while his blood covered the sidewalk in a stream. The most intense excitement at once took place and crowds flocked to the scene. Several officers rushed up, and seeing a few men making towards Chambers street and city hall, followed them. One of them, a tall man, was captured and brought back to where the dying man was lying.

"Is this the man who stabbed you?" asked the officer.

"Yes, that is the man," said the bleeding man; "but by heavens, if I'm going to die I'll die game, and there will be two of us." With that and before the bystanders could realize his intentions, he drew a revolver and fired two shots in quick succession at the man before him. One of the balls took effect in the thigh of his would-be murderer. This still further increased the excitement, and the neighbors became wild with all sorts of rumors.

The man who was stabbed proved to be Capt. Thomas F. Phelan, of Kansas City, aged 49, and his assailant, who he says stabbed him, gave his name as Richard Short, of 861 Tenth avenue.

Phelan was taken to the Chambers street hospital, dying.

A great crowd gathered around the man lying on the sidewalk, and several firemen came running down the street and did something for him in the way of dashing water in his face and giving him whisky.

The police claim to have a letter from Rossa to the wounded man, telling him to come on to New York to his office—that he had important business for him to attend to.

Phelan was asked by fireman Cottrell if he wanted a minister or priest. "No, or I don't want anybody. I don't believe in any religion. I am a follower of Bob Ingersoll."

Rossa was condemned by many of his compatriots for giving publication to his paper this week to an interview printed in the Kansas City *Journal*, purporting to be an interview he had with Phelan, giving details of the operations of dynamiters in England. Threats were made against Rossa's life, and it is said his immediate friends had determined to form a body guard to protect him.

Short, it is said, came to this country with the man who, in the summer of 1882, shot at Jim McDermott in

Breckenridge introduced a bill for the appointment of a southwestern river commission. Referred. The evening session was devoted to the consideration of pension bills. Twenty-one pension bills were passed. Adjourned until Monday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.

HOUSE.—The House went into committee of the whole on the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill. Hitt moved to restore to the $3,500 class the consulship at Hankow, China, which in the bill had been placed in the $1,500 class. In advocacy of this amendment Ryan called attention to the fact that a line of steamers is now running between Shanghai and Hankow under the American flag. In response, Burns intimated the steamers were sailed under the American flag, not because Americans owned or were interested in them, but only for protection during the French and Chinese war. Reed inquired how foreigners could sail their vessels under the American flag under our statutes. Burns replied he could not answer for the truth of the assertion, but the statement had gone the rounds of the press that vessels were sailed under the American flag for the protection of interests not our own. Ryan said he would assume the transfer of these vessels to the American flag had been made in good faith until he should have some better evidence to the contrary than newspaper rumor. Randall inquired whether the transfer had not taken place immediately after the breaking out of the war between France and China. Hitt's motion was lost —48 to 67. A point of order was made against a paragraph appropriating $12,000 to meet the necessary expenses attendant on the execution of neutrality acts, and the point was maintained by the Chair. Cannon appealed from the decision, and leave of the committee to be heard briefly and as to whether any loss will practically occur by granting such extension.

Under the present practice collectors are required to report to this office such of list of spirits as are withdrawn between the time listed and actual assessment. They will hereafter, at the time of reporting listed spirits as withdrawn upon payment of tax before entered, also report those entered by such bonds so approved by them since listing.

Regulation series No. 7 are hereby amended by striking out the words "thirty days" in the condition of bonds prescribed in articles 10 and 11 thereof, and collectors are directed to substitute therefor such time, not exceeding six months, as their opinion may be reasonably required in the process of exportation, particularly spirits to be covered by bond, including required bona fide and necessary delays in warehouse caused by operations incidental to exportation subsequent to the filing of the bonds, such as affixing stamps, arrangements with transportation companies, procurement of bills of lading (which should not be required to be furnished before spirits can be withdrawn from warehouse), also necessary delays which may occur in same way in securing ocean transportation to the port of destination. Collectors will be careful that the required declaration of intention to export is clear and explicit and that this and all other proceedings are in good faith; that export stamps are paid for, tax deficiencies paid, bonds with ample security furnished and all steps taken which under law are incidental to the transaction by the inception of which, in the language of the attorney general, spirits are transformed into a different subject matter from that upon which the distillery warehouse bond had operated and which in his opinion frees spirits for the time being from any obligation for domestic tax.

Hazen's Danger.

The *National Republican* contains an article upon the charges preferred by Gen. Hazen against Lieut. Garlington, in which it will say a strange point has been raised in the case which, it is suggested, has caused Sec. Lincoln to delay action. The point is, that as the Proteus court which tried Lieut. Garlington reported that no further action was necessary, and the President approved its findings, is the action of Gen. Hazen in demanding further action beyond that of the President? It would be no great surprise, says the *Republican*, if charges were preferred against Gen. Hazen himself and the case referred to the court now trying Gen. Swaim.

Gen. Grant.

Gen. Sherman, in answer to a question as to the effect of Gen. Grant's declination to receive the fund for his benefit, said: "Of course that will put a stop to the whole thing, and nothing now will be done about it. I presume, though, that the legal defense which was secured for him will be retained. Gen. Grant has friends who will look out for his interests outside of those who were instituting themselves in his behalf in this particular instance."

Board of Indian Commissioners.

The annual conference of the board of Indian commissioners was held Thursday. Resolutions were adopted indorsing the bill pending before congress to give lands to Indians in severalty known as the Coke bill; recommending that the Indian bureau be an independent bureau with a responsible head, the same as the department of agriculture, and deprecating the consolidation of bands or tribes of Indians in such manner as to bring larger numbers of Indians into association with each other and into greater isolation from the educational influence of intercourse with citizens. A resolution was also adopted providing for the appointment of a committee to consult with the president-elect in regard to the future Indian policy of the government.

Cabinet Gossip.

The gossips now have it that Sen. Bayard does not care after all to go into the Cabinet, preferring instead to act as the leader of his party in the Senate, and, with a love for his brother Senator, Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, like that of Damon and Pythias or David and Jonathan, is endeavoring to push the Ohio Senator who sits next to him in the Chamber for a place in the next Cabinet.

The Educational Bill.

The report that President-elect Cleveland had sent the word along that the educational bill must not be passed at the present time, has greatly disturbed the members from the South who are interested in the enactment of the measure. Some of these members have been turtened with petitions from their constituents, urging some action upon the bill, and they are greatly perplexed to know what to do. It is, as yet, doubtful as to what may be done on the subject, some Southern Democrats feeling inclined to take the benefit of the doubt about the genuineness of the report from Albany, and pass the bill in response to the demands of their constituents.

No Soldier Need Apply.

The Union soldier has nothing to expect from the present Democratic majority of the House. It has repeatedly refused to take up and consider the amendments to the Mexican pension bill, and when in any of the general appropriation bills anything intended to benefit the soldier is proposed in the form of an amendment or otherwise, it is immediately put aside on points of order, raised in almost every instance by a Southern member.

Lands for Two Cents an Acre.

Capt. Salmon Tuttle and J. W. Hamilton, of Kansas, members of the Cherokee Strip Live Stock association and sub-lessees of lands held by that association, were examined by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. It was found that the association held about 6,000,000 acres, rented from the Cherokees, at two cents an acre, and sublessees paid 2½ cents an acre. Sen Harrison asked what use was made of the surplus. Sen. Ingalls objected, on the ground that it was inquiry into the private business of witnesses. He would not object, he said, to inquiry as to whether any portion of the surplus was paid in securing the lease. Sen. Harrison maintained his inquiry was necessary to develop the facts in the case. The committee went into secret session to consider the scope of further investigation.

Gen. Sherman and Jeff Davis.

The papers called for by Sen. Hawley in a resolution offered by him in the Senate, requesting the President to communicate to the Senate a historical statement concerning the public policy of the executive department of the Confederate states during the late war, which has recently been filed in the war department by Gen. W. T. Sherman, will probably be sent to the Senate Monday. They consist of an autograph letter from the late Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, to Herschel V. Johnson, which was recently published, and a secret message from Jefferson Davis to the Confederate Congress, which was captured at Richmond, together with a communication from Gen. Sherman with reference to the documents.

Bureau of Public Health.

Palmer on Friday introduced a bill to prevent the introduction and diffusion of contagious and infectious diseases, and to promote the general sanitary welfare of the people. It provides for the establishment in the Treasury department of a bureau of public health, to be charged with the execution of the laws relating to quarantine and public health. The sum of $400,000 is appropriated to carry it into effect.

Colored Troops.

Cockrell has introduced a bill to amend the act placing colored troops on the same footing as to bounty as other soldiers, by making it apply to the heirs of all colored soldiers who may have died, or were killed while in the service of the United States.

Gold and Silver.

The director of the mint has made his annual statement. The coinage, less recoinage, has been: Gold, $25,726,852; silver, $28,149,978. Imports in the United States of coin: Gold, $4,239,875; silver, $725,150. Total gain, $57,491,648. He estimates that $4,875,000 United States gold and $216,000 silver coin were melted for use in manufactures and art, and $6,000,000 in trade dollars, constituting part of the silver circulation in previous years, have been withdrawn from circulation. The exports were: United States gold coin, $11,878,154; silver coin, $5,222,431; net gain of gold coin, $11,213,573; silver coin, $22,106,697. This, added to the estimated total amount in the country January 1, 1884, makes the circulation on January 1, 1885, $663,000,000 gold and $264,000,000 silver—total, $827,000,000.

GEN. GRANT'S DEBTS.

The General and His Wife Consider It a Debt of Honor that Must be Paid.

The following correspondence, dated Saturday and Sunday, has been sent out by the Associated Press from New York:

Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant:

DEAR MADAM—So many misrepresentations have appeared in regard to a loan made by me to Gen. Grant and reflecting unjustly upon him and myself, that it seems proper that I briefly recite the facts. On Sunday, the 4th of May last, Gen. Grant called at my house and asked me to lend him $150,000 for one day. I gave him my check without question, not because the transaction was business-like, but simply because the request came from Gen. Grant. The misfortune which overwhelmed him in the next 24 hours aroused the sympathy and regrets of the whole country. You and he sent me within a few days of that time deeds of conveyance in proper form to cover this obligation, and urged my acceptance on the ground that this was only a debt of honor which the general had personally incurred, and these deeds I returned.

During my absence in Europe the general delivered to my attorney mortgages upon all his own real estate, household effects, and swords, medals and works of art, which were memorials of his victories and presents from governments all over the world. These securities were, in his judgment, worth the $150,000. At his solicitation, the necessary steps were taken by judgment, etc., to reduce these properties to possession, and the articles mentioned have been this day bought in by me and amounts bid applied in the reduction of the debt. Now, that I may feel like a free agent in these things as my own, the disposition of the whole matter rest in accord with my feelings is this: I present to you as your separate estate the debt and judgment I hold against Gen. Grant; also the mortgages upon his real estate and all the household furniture and ornaments, coupled only with the condition that the swords, examinations, medals and gifts from the United States, states and foreign governments, and all articles of historical value and interest, shall, at the general's death, or if you desire it sooner, be presented to the government at Washington, where they will remain as perpetual memorials of his fame and of the history of his time.

I enclose herewith assignments to you of the mortgages and judgments, a bill of sale of the personal property and a deed of trust in which the articles of historical interest are enumerated. This will cost me the deal will, with your approval, be forwarded to the President of the United States for deposit in the proper department.

Trusting this action will meet with your acceptance and approval, and with kindest regards to your husband, I am yours, respectfully, W. H. VANDERBILT.

DEAR SIR—Mrs. Grant wishes me to answer your letter of this evening, to say, while she appreciates your great generosity in transferring to her the mortgage given to secure my debt of $150,000, she cannot accept in the whole. She accepts with pleasure the trust which applies to articles enumerated in your letter to go to the government of the United States at my death, or sooner at her option. In this matter you have anticipated the disposition which I had contemplated making of the articles. They will be delivered to the government as soon as arrangements can be made for their reception. Papers relating to all other property will be returned with the request that you have it sold and the proceeds applied to the liquidation of the debt which I so justly owe you. You have stated in your letter with minute accuracy the history of the transaction which brought me in your debt. I have only to add I regard your giving me your check for the amount, without inquiry, an act of marked and unusual friendship. The loan was to me personally. I got the money that I believed to carry the Marine National bank over a day. Being assured that the bank was solvent, but owing to unusual calls needed assistance until it could call in its loans. I was assured by Ferdinand Ward that the firm of Grant & Ward had over $600,000 to their credit at that time in the Marine bank, besides $1,300,000 of unpledged securities in their own vaults. I cannot conclude without assuring you that Mrs. Grant's inability to avail herself of your great kindness in no way lessens either her sense of obligation or my own.

Yours truly, U. S. GRANT.

W. H. Vanderbilt, esq.

Gen. U. S. Grant:

MY DEAR SIR—On my return home last night I found your letter in answer to mine to Mrs. Grant. I appreciate fully the sentiments which actuate both Mrs. Grant and yourself in declining a part of my proposition relating to the real estate. I greatly regret she feels it her duty to make this decision, as I earnestly hoped the spirit in which the offer was made would overcome any scruples in accepting it; but I must insist that I shall not be defeated in the purpose to which I have given so much thought and which I have so much at heart. I will, therefore, as fast as the money is received from the sales of the real estate, deposit it in the Union Trust company. With the money thus realized I will at once create with that company a trust with proper provisions for the income to be paid to Mrs. Grant during her life, and giving the power to her to make such disposition of the principal by her will as she may elect.

WM. H. VANDERBILT.

DEAR SIR—Your letter of this date received. Mrs. Grant and I regret you cannot accept our proposition to retain the property which was mortgaged in good faith to secure a debt of honor, but your generous determination compel us to no longer resist. Yours truly, U. S. GRANT.

W. H Vanderbilt.

MY DEAR MR. VANDERBILT—Upon reading your letter this afternoon, Gen. Grant and myself felt it would be ungracious to refuse your princely and generous offer, hence his note to you. But upon reflection I find I cannot. I will not accept your munificence in any form. I beg you will pardon this apparent vacillation and consider this answer definite and final. With great regard and a sense of obligation that will always remain, I am yours very gratefully, JULIA D. GRANT.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Great Britain.

In December the imports at London decreased 797,161 pounds as compared with December, 1883, and the exports decreased 1,130,909 pounds on the same comparison.

All members of the Egyptian debt commission, with the exception of the English delegate, have signed a statement that the financial proposals of Earl Granville are unaccepted.

The Marquis of Salisbury, conservative leader of the House of Lords, has written a letter to a conservative, in which he condemns the government for its accilliating foreign and Colonial policy. The nation, he says, finds itself opposed by European coalition, and the colonies are justly dissatisfied at the government's failure to prevent Germany annexing contiguious territory.

The London missionary society sent Earl Derby, colonial secretary, a protest against France's annexation of islands in the South Pacific ocean. The Rev. Mr. Jones, agent of the society in the Loyalty islands, writes that French authorities prohibited English missionaries to continue their labors. Jones transferred the care of the schools and chapels to native pastors in order to prevent French seizing the property.

Prince Albert Victor of Wales, heir presumptive to the British throne, attained his majority Friday. The event was made the occasion of rejoicing throughout the country. In London the day opened with ringing of bells, hoisting flags and music at St. James' Palace. The university of Cambridge sent an address of congratulation to the young prince.

The Colonial government of New Zealand has asked permission of the Home government to annex the island of Samoa to its jurisdiction. It holds a steamer in readiness to proceed to Samoa, pending the reply of Lord Derby, secretary of state for the Colonies. This reply will probably be unfavorable to annexation.

The Secretary of the London Protestant Educational institute has written Earl Granville, secretary of state for foreign affairs, asking whether Errington, unofficial British representative at the Vatican, is authorized to negotiate with the Vatican in reference to Catholic missions in India. Such action, the writer says, would be unconstitutional and would prove injurious to the Protestant cause. A dispatch from Rome says: "Signor Mocenni, papal under secretary of state, denies that Errington is accredited to the Vatican, either officially or unofficially."

The London *Times* says: "Parnell, in his recent management of party matters in Tipperary, has accomplished his purpose well. O'Kvan, who was compelled to submit to his dictation, was coldly praised by Parnell for ridding himself of a feeling of false pride. Parnell has taken the measure of the people he rules, and scarcely conceals his iron hand in the velvet glove. The envy of the most skilful of political organizers, he has quelled without trouble what seemed to be an incipient revolt against his authority. He is a conspicuous and shining example of 'the boss' on this side of the Atlantic. No candidate will in the future care to place himself in a situation antagonistic to Parnell. It would be presumptuous to speculate upon the limits of his power over the Irish people."

Egypt.

The Black Watch regiment in Egypt has started from Korti for Merawi.

A prisoner at Korti says he saw four of Gen. Gordon's steamers recently at Shendy. They were apparently awaiting the English advance.

The following telegram has been received from Woolseley, dated Korti, January 7, 4-10 p. m.: "A strong convoy is leaving camp for Gakdul. Gen. Stewart will attack another to-morrow for Metamneh, which we expect to occupy by the 15th inst. If a steamer is found there we shall communicate with Gen. Gordon without delay."

Maj. Kitchener with a few men was scouting in the direction of Abuhalfa, a few miles this side of Gakdul. He captured a small party of natives, with camels. He went in pursuit of a convoy of 70 camels and 50 natives on their way to the Mahdi. The natives at first showed fight, but dispersed, uttering loud cries, when the English charged them. Nine camels laden with corn were captured.

An Arab reports the Mahdi has sent all the women of his tribes to Kordofan and ordered the inhabitants of Metamneh to evacuate the town and send the women and children across the river. He has ordered the men to join his army. Ondurman and his army are between Berber and Metamneh. They will be the first to oppose the English. The Mahdi is busily preparing for battle.

France.

M Lenorman, the widower of the woman who employed Morin to secure evidence that her husband had improper relations with Madame Clovis Hugues, is about to marry a widow in Normandy. The trial of Madame Clovis Hugues for the murder of her traducer, Private Detective Morin, opened at the court of Assizes. The court room was crowded to overflowing. Many diplomats and other persons of distinction were present.

During the reading of the indictment Madame Clovis Hugues seemed to be affected, but replied in a firm tone to questions. She admitted the shooting was premeditated, and declared that ever since May 25 she had been resolved to kill her traducer. The interrogation as regards facts leading to the shooting developed nothing new.

Later in the examination Madame Clovis Hugues declared she offered Morin to apply for a remission of his sentence, if he would retract the calumnies circulated about her. To this offer Morin only returned an insulting reply. In concluding her statement she said: "If you believe me guilty, condemn me; if you can understand the moral torture I have endured, acquit me." These words were uttered in a firm, energetic tone. She appeared to make a favorable impression on the jury. In reply to a remark by the judges that the murder was unjustifiable, especially after fifteen months' premeditation, she said: "You would not reason so coolly if you suffered as I have," and the prisoner proceeded to unfold the unremitting and atrocious character of the persecution to which she had been subjected. During the narrative she became very excited.

Mme. Clovis-Hugues was acquitted of the murder of Morin, but condemned to pay $4.00 damages and the costs of the trial. The announcement "not guilty" was the signal for tremendous applause. Popular sympathy for Madame Hugues was demonstrated by vociferous shouts and cheering.

Germany.

The Berlin *National Gazette* says the American delegate to the Congo conference explicitly disavow any intention on the part of the United States to be responsible for the execution of the resolutions of the conference on account of having taken part in the deliberations.

The *North German Gazette* denies that the German, Egyptian and Colonial policy is due to Bismarck's hatred of Gladstone. The motives of Germany are much more dignified. Her policy never has been influenced by irritation.

Emperor William has written a letter in reply to the New Year's address presented to him by the municipal authorities of Berlin. He dwells upon the political and economic progress which the country has made in recent years. The settlements in Africa which have been placed under the protection of the empire will give additional outlet, he says, to German enterprise, and will prove a stimulant to trade manufactures. Under the auspices of peace, which he trusts will continue, every prospect in Germany will continue to make gratifying progress in material and moral welfare.

Spain.

Fifteen thousand persons have already left Granada. People generally are of the opinion that the end of the world is at hand, and are seeking absolution from priests. The village of Guivajere is slowly sinking into the valley.

The church, convent and 50 houses were destroyed at Motril by earthquake Monday evening. There was a great procession at Grenada Wednesday; 12,000 people, headed by priests bearing an image of the virgin, marched through the streets, chanting and praying for deliverance from further earthquakes.

The official report on earthquakes states that 900 lives were lost in Granada. The King increased his personal donation to the relief fund to $2,000. The Emperor of Germany telegraphs sympathy and a large contribution. The relief fund is increasing wonderfully.

Fresh earthquake shocks were felt Wednesday at Nerja and Veles, Malaga Several houses were damaged.

A severe earthquake shock experienced in Granada at 6 o'clock Monday evening gave occasion for a panic among the convicts in the prison. They attempted to escape from confinement, but were prevented by the civil guards. Shocks were also felt at Loja and Motril. King Alfonso is about to make a visit to the provinces of Granada and Malaga.

An official bulletin at Madrid states that up to the 8th inst. in the provinces of Granada and Malaga 1,400 persons were killed by earthquakes, 900 were wounded and 48,000 are homeless. Alhama will be rebuilt a mile from the present site.

King Alfonso and suit have started on a tour to Loja, Alhama, Granada and Malaga, thence along the coast, visiting the towns that suffered most severely by the earthquake. The royal party received an ovation upon starting from the capital.

The expense of rebuilding Alhama will be defrayed by a vote of the cortes. King Alfonso took with him $18,200, which was raised in London and which will be distributed in the village of Guevejar and to those who are houseless in Andalusia.

The village of Guevejar has been moved bodily 60 feet from its former location.

Canada.

A verdict of $500 awarded Kniver against the Phoenix lodge of Odd Fellows of Oshawa for injuries received during initiation was confirmed by the high court at Toronto.

Another Orange outrage is reported from Carlsonor. Wednesday, while Dr. Richard Dean, a Roman Catholic medical practitioner at Broad Cove, was proceeding on a sick call, he was overtaken by a mob of about 100 men and boys, who pelted him with stones and stabbed him many times, fourteen stab wounds being found upon him. They also robbed him of everything valuable. The doctor is not thought to be fatally wounded.

During the past year the total number of immigrants arriving in the province of Ontario was 37,390, against 97,515 the previous year. Of the total number 58,489 went to the United States.

A Quebec newspaper, discussing the recent article of the London *Times* on the Nicaraguan canal difficulty, and the possibility of a rupture between England and the United States, says: "There is no doubt Canada would become the theater of operation, and in our case we would have the right to protest and refuse to allow ourselves to be slaughtered like sheep, and we are asked to endure all the calamities and all the horrors of war to defend England's interests in Central America. This is really coming it too strong, and we hardly think our loyalty will permit us to enter upon so perilous a path."

South America.

The financial situation at Buenos Ayres has become greatly complicated. The demand for drafts to Europe and a general want of confidence of commercial houses, have produced grave conflicts in banks, national and provincial. Drafts for £1,500,000 were wanted, and only £100,000 obtained. This caused a run on the banks, and great demand for gold. Business is at a standstill. People are waiting to see what measures will be taken.

Isthmus of Panama.

Gen. Santo Domingo Villa has been elected President for the state of Panama, and been duly installed.

Mexico.

The old stamp law of Mexico, so unpopular and oppressive to commerce, has been abolished, and a new law established. By it the stamp tax on all retail sales of merchandize, mortgages, bonds, contracts, etc., is one-half per cent.; on the import duty of foreign wines and liquors, 10 per cent.; on sales of native wines and liquors, four. There is a special tax for tobacco. On playing cards the tax is 50 per cent. Articles destined for exportation are not liable to a stamp, nor retail sales of articles necessary to subsistence, sold in public markets or by itinerant venders. Retail dealers are to pay a tax for a year in advance, on the estimated value of their sales. In case of a dispute between the merchant and the government, an agent of each shall name ten men to decide the true value of sales. Severe penalties will be imposed for an infraction of the law. The new ordinance removes abuses of the old, and will be a relief to commerce.

General.

Corea is threatened with famine.

A telegraph cable has been laid between the mainland of Japan and Kinkin Islands.

The proposed expedition of Prof. Nordenskjold to the South pole has been postponed until 1887.

A dispatch from Hong Kong says: "The government *Gazette* announces that the blockade of the Island of Formosa, between South Cape and Eijka, which was suspended, has been renewed. No notice of suspension was given. This action is considered unfair to neutrals and injurious to trade."

Advices from Melbourne state that at a meeting of 4,000 citizens, the Mayor of the city presiding, resolutions were adopted asking the home government to prevent foreign annexation of adjacent islands and consequent pollution from European criminals. A similar meeting was held at Ballarat.

Commander Knorr, of the German squadron on the west coast of Africa, telegraphs that the corvettes Olga and Bismarck suppressed a revolt of negroes in Cameroons. Several chiefs and a number of natives were killed or captured and many villages destroyed. One German sailor was killed and eight wounded. Order was restored. Emperor William sent a dispatch thanking the crews of the squadron for their valiant conduct.

Belva's Petition.

Mrs. Belva Ann Lockwood, candidate of the Equal Rights party for President in the late campaign, in her petition to the Senate through Sen. Hoar, asks that the votes cast for her in New York, New Hampshire, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Maryland and California be counted, and that the electoral vote of Indiana be cast for her. She charges that votes cast for her were fraudulently and illegally counted for the alleged majority candidate, the same being antagonistic to the letter and spirit of the law and subversive of every principle of equity and justice."

She also asks that the Senate refuse to receive the electoral returns from the state of New York, or count them for the alleged majority candidate, for had the 1,336 votes polled in said state for your petitioner been counted for her and not for one Grover Cleveland, he would not have been awarded a majority of all votes cast at said election in said state."

The reason for asking that the electoral vote of Indiana be cast for her, she says, is that after the electoral college of that state had cast its vote for the aforesaid Grover Cleveland, it changed its mind, as it had a legal right to do, and did cast its united ballot for your petitioner.

Chicago Socialists.

A mass meeting of socialists was held Sunday, at Turner hall, which was well filled. A. R. Parson, August Spies and others less known in socialistic circles, made speeches setting forth the theories of that class, and urging the use of force for bringing the desired results about.

The *Daily News* publishes the result of investigation into the actual strength of the socialistic military companies of Chicago. The first company had about 30 men at its last drill; the second company nine men and three boys at its last drill, with one gun for the lot. The third company exists only in socialistic imagination, and she same is true of the Jaetzer verein. The Bohemian sharpshooters had less than 20 at the last drill. The *News* says that they could not muster more than 100 drilled and armed men, and intimates that the scare is being fostered in the interests of increased appropriation or state militia. The police authorities, it says, laugh at sensational reports published, and say they can promptly suppress any outbreak of which the socialists are capable.

New Jersey Politics and the Tariff.

The operative potters of Trenton, N. J., talked all day Sunday of the latest proposition by the manufacturers, namely, to accept English wages, plus the protective tariff of 55 per cent. The unanimous sentiment was against the proposition, unless the manufacturers would add to the tariff casual fees, brokerage, custom-house dues, insurance, etc., which English importers have to pay in addition to the tariff. The operatives demand the appointment of a board of arbitration to investigate whether the reduction is necessary to the welfare of the manufacturers. Should the appointment of a board be not agreed to by the manufacturers within the next four days, the operatives will declare a lockout and begin drawing upon the funds of the knights of labor.

Novel Temperance Movement in Pittsburg.

A movement has been started to have Francis Murphy, the temperance apostle, locate permanently in Pittsburg. A large number of manufacturers and business men of the city have subscribed sums ranging from $100 to $1,000, towards raising a working fund for that purpose. An organization has been formed, to be known as the Church of the People of Temperance, and a call will be issued to Mr. Murphy to act as regular minister of this novel church. During eight weeks of the late revival 18,000 signed the pledge.

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F. D. CLARKE, M.D.
166 S. Clark St., Chicago, Ill

Wholesale Poisoning at East Liverpool, Ohio.

Thursday night a family party was given at the residence of Daniel Van Fossen, and while at supper those present, eleven in all, were, after drinking coffee, taken suddenly ill and were attacked with intense pains in the stomach, attended with vomiting, showing undoubted symptoms of poisoning. About 2 o'clock Friday morning the little girl, Alice McBane, 6 years of age, died in great agony. Mrs. Collins, an old lady over 80 years of age, Elmer Collins, 23 years of age, and Daniel Van Fossen, a little boy, are lying very low and are not expected to live. The others, though still quite ill, may recover. A suspicious-looking sediment was found in the bottom of the coffee pot and is supposed to be "Rough on Rats," as a box of that poison that was in the cupboard the day before has disappeared. Mr. Van Fossen's daughter, Anna, who is addicted to the use of opium, is supposed to have perpetrated the terrible crime, although she denies knowing anything about it. She was taken sick also, but less severely than the others, and soon recovered.

On Wednesday several school children became very sick after eating some taffy she had made and which had been given the children by her younger sister. An investigation was commenced, but owing to the utter prostration of all the unfortunate victims but little testimony was taken. The stomach of Alice McBane will be taken to Pittsburg and carefully analyzed. The excitement continues unabated.

Annie Van Fossen, the young woman accused of poisoning the Van Fossen and McBane families at East Liverpool, O., waived a preliminary hearing, pleaded not guilty, and was remanded to jail on a charge of murder in the first degree. No other deaths have occurred, and the victims are all in a fair way of recovery.

Butler on the Warpath.

Gen. Butler has brought suit against the Boston *Herald*, claiming $25,000 damages for the publication of an article which purported to come from one of the crew of the steamer Mt. Vernon, claiming that Gen. Butler caused the arrest of the captain of the transport Mississippi while the vessel was on the way to Ship island from Hampton roads, because he would not put in Hatteras inlet, and that in consequence of his arrest and the assumption of her command by Butler, the Mississippi went ashore and was damaged, and the Mt. Vernon sent her relief.

Lumber Cut of the Northwest.

The total cut of the Northwest lumber region last year was 2,524,298,361 feet, and 630,090,788 lath, an increase over the cut of 1883 of 447,811,966 feet of lumber, 242,994,050 shingles, and 85,799,850 lath. The stock on hand December 1, 1884, aggregated 1,705,708,522 feet of lumber, 424,098,406 shingles, and 310,376,000 lath, an increase over the total of December 1, 1883, of 604,078,686 feet of lumber, 50,011,556 shingles, and 199,513,700 lath. The anticipated log supply is placed at 2,619,866,000 feet, of which 1,522,500,000 feet will represent new logs.

Democrats and Mormonism.

There was a large and enthusiastic meeting at Salt Lake Friday night of Democratic clubs, composed of young men prominent in Mormon families. Alfales Young, son of the late President Brigham Young, was a prominent speaker. He said he was here to complete the union of the church and state. A Mormon cried out, "A lie!" Young responded: "I guess it is; the church has absorbed the state." A number of others spoke in the same vein. The meeting is the whole talk of the town.

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Market Column.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BUSINESS.

Financial.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE, WEDNESDAY, Jan. 14, 1884.

The following is the statement of the New York banks for the week ending Saturday:

Loans, decrease	$1,734,000
Specie, increase	7,309,000
Legal tenders, increase	2,422,000
Deposits, increase	8,431,000
Circulation, decrease	136,000
Reserve, increase	7,623,000

The banks now hold $47,644,000 in excess of legal requirements.

To-day's reports up to the latest hour by telegraph to the BLADE say money is loaning at 1@2 per cent. Bar silver, 108¾. Stocks weaker. Prices declined ½@¾ per cent. from the highest point of the morning. Business quiet.

Government bonds—3s, 101; 4½s, 112¾; 4s, 122; Pacific 6s, of '95, 125.

The following will show the change in Government bonds during the past week:

	Jan. 13.	Dec. 6.
4½'s coupons	112¾	112½
4's coupons	122	121¾
3's registered	101	101
Pacific 6's, '95	125	124

TRADE.

Within the past week there was a slight improvement in several branches of general trade. In the iron business a large number of men have been re-employed in furnaces and mills. There is a somewhat better tone to the dry goods trade. A more cheerful feeling is exhibiting itself in leading trade centers.

THE MARKETS.

On Tuesday of last week No. 2 Red wheat sold for 80½c in this market; on Wednesday 79c was the price; on Thursday it fell to 78c; on Friday it closed at 80c; on Saturday it went at 80¾c, and on Monday 80c was the value, showing a decline within the week of ½c.

Within the past week the sales of wheat in this market were of good proportions, the May future being the favorite in the deal. In cash wheat there was a decline of ½c shown at the close, as compared with the opening of the week. In futures, February exhibits a depression of 1¼c, while May went off ¾c. Have prices reached a point too high to hold? is a question that some dealers are asking. From all the facts that can be gathered it would seem that while the past week has shown a small decline in values, there is that in the situation that justifies the belief that wheat will yet advance, and that present prices are lower than will rule in the near future. Business is beginning to brighten up throughout the United States, and with increased employment to labor will come increased consumption, which alone will strengthen values. Aside from this, the fact that the acreage of winter wheat sown is considerably less than in 1883 will soon have a bearing upon prices. The acreage of winter wheat to be harvested in the United Kingdom will be about 15 per cent. less than in 1884. In the western states it is estimated that there was a decrease in the average of winter wheat sown of about 15 per cent. or equal to 33,000,000 bushels. While it is true that the cereal products in store are ample for all demands, yet the fact that there will be less wheat to harvest will naturally tend to harden prices.

The price of corn has held well up during the week. Cash corn has sold fairly well, while for future delivery but little changed owners. The latter is owing to the fact that there is a large amount of corn in the country, which causes an uncertainty as to the value in the future.

Toledo Market.

At to-day's session of the Toledo Produce Exchange the amount of cash wheat placed upon the market was quite small. Prices about unchanged.

Sales No. 2 Red wheat to-day	2,500
" " yesterday	6,500

No. 2 soft red Lake Shore wheat to arrive, 87c; No. 2 Narrow Gauge, 83c; No. 3 soft red wheat, 81c, Lake Shore.

For future delivery No 2 red wheat sold briskly for February and May delivery. Other amounts neglected. Prices were a little irregular, with a slight weakness at the close, and lower.

	Jan. bu	Feb. bu.	Mar. bu.	Apr. bu.	May. bu.
Sales to-day	....	90,000	....	....	266,000
Sales yesterday	....	50,000	35000	....	570,000

Seller February, 80c, and to close 79¼c. 1½c decline; seller March, none taken; seller May, 84½c, and to conclude 84¼c, 1c lower.

Cash corn, not much done. Prices lower, closed steady.

Sales cash corn to-day	7,000 bu.
Sales cash corn yesterday	12,500 bu.

No 3 yellow corn, 40¼c; No 3 corn, 40¾@40c, latter to close, ½c lower.

Oats—No sales

Clover Seed—Sales 33 bags. Prices 5c higher, at $4 80 for Prime cash.

Dressed Hogs—Sales of 60 head at yesterday's prices, $5 25 for all weights.

General Produce.

BUFFALO, Jan. 13.—Wheat nominally at 83½c for No 1 hard spring, January; 86c asked; 86c bid May. Corn quiet; No 2 yellow at 46c on track. Oats dull; 2 cars No 2 white western, 34½c on track.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 13.—Wheat firm; No. 2, 78c; January, 78c; February, 78¾; March, 79c; May, 81¾@82c. Corn—No 2, 46c. Oats neglected; No 2, 26½c. Rye higher; No 1, 60c. Barley firm; No 2, 53½c; extra No 3, 47c.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 12—Wheat—Market steady; No 2 red, 61½c cash; January,—c; February, 62¾@62¾c; May, 66@66¾c. Corn—Market lower; 24½c cash; January, —c; February, —c; March, 29½@29⅝c; May, 31¼c. Oats dull and nominal; no bids.

DETROIT, Jan. 13.—Wheat dull; No. 1 white, 84¼c cash and January; 82c February; 91½c March; 93c May and the asked May; No 2 Red, 88c asked cash; 88c nominal January; 89c asked February; —c March; 93c bid and 94c asked May; c. 3 Red, 76c; No 2 white, —; Michigan soft Red, 95c asked Longberry. —c. Corn—No. 2, 41c bid. Oats—Light mixed, 32½c bid; No. 2 white, 32½c; No. 2, 31½c.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 13.—Flour easier, not lower; family, $3 50@3 85; fancy, $4 15@4 25. Wheat weaker at 84@84½c. Corn in fair demand; No 2 mixed, 41@42c. Oats strong at 32c. Rye firm at 60c Barley quiet and unchanged; extra No. 3 fall, 59c. Provisions easier not lower. Pork at 12¼c. Lard at 6 75. Bulk meats at 5¾@6¾c. Bacon, 8¼@8¾@7½c. Whisky dull and nominal at 111c